The New-York Times.

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TELEGRAMS.

No Attack Yet Made on the Insurgents at Cadiz.

An Outbreak of the Carlists of Arragon Anticipated.

Four More Express Robbers Hung by Regulators in Indiana.

SPAIN.

The Insurrection at Cadiz—Great Political Excitement Throughout the Country.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Telegraphic communication with Madrid is still interrupted.

The latest dispatches say that the political agitation throughout Spain is very great, and that capitalists are leaving the country. There is much alarm among all classes of the people. The Government authorities are in receipt of communications from many parts of the country, promising aid to suppress the revolution.

The insurgents at Cadiz hold strong positions. The President of the Republican Committee had not yet arrived from Seville. The insurrectionary movement has not spread beyond Cadiz.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Later dispatches from Madrid state that hostilities were expected at Cadiz on Saturday (to-day) if the insurgents do not submit. The Government has offered the most liberal terms to the revolutionists, and left no measure untried to prevent the effusion of blood.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 12—Midnight.

Dispatches have just been received from Madrid of this day's date. The *Official Gazette* of that city has the following:

There is nothing further from Cadiz, owing to the derangement of the telegraph wires. The Government is anxious for the insurgents to yield to reason and patriotism, and not force the national troops, which have so many advantages, to fire upon their countrymen.

The Government Commander is certain of a prompt suppression of the revolt.

The Captain-General of the Department of Valencia reports to the Government an imminent rising of the Carlists in Aragon.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Appointment of Government Officers—Release of George Francis Train.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The following Ministers and officers of State have been appointed: Sergeant GIFFORD, Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench; Lord DUFFERIN, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; EDWARD SULLIVAN, Member of Parliament for Mallow, Attorney-General for Ireland; CHARLES ROBERT BARRY, Member of Parliament for Dungarvon, Solicitor-General for Ireland; THOMAS GEORGE BARING, (Baron NORTHBROOK,) Under Secretary of War; Mr. VIVIAN, Treasury Lord to supervise the military expenditure.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 12—Midnight.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN has been set at liberty, the plaintiffs in the case having withdrawn the suits against him. Mr. TRAIN has issued writs against the Marquis of Abercorn, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, for $100,000 damages for false imprisonment, and against the Ebbw Vale Steel Company for $20,000. Mr. TRAIN will sail in the *Australasian* from Queenstown to-morrow for New-York.

GREECE.

The Ultimatum of the Sultan of Turkey Still Resisted.

VIENNA, Friday, Dec. 12.

The *Official Correspondence*, of this city, in an editorial to-day, says that the Greek Government still withstands the representations made by the Great Powers of Europe in the matter of the ultimatum of the Sublime Porte, and that the Turkish Ambassador at Athens is consequently preparing to depart.

CUBA.

Gen. Dulce to Inaugurate a Liberal Policy—Progress of the Insurrection.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Prominent Liberals and Cubans in Spain have sent telegrams to influential citizens of Havana, stating that Gen. DULCE goes to Cuba, fully authorized to modify the duties, and to govern the Island on a Liberal basis. The granting of a definite Constitution is reserved for the decision of the Cortes, but the new Captain-General is authorized to issue a general amnesty to all insurgents, upon their laying down their arms.

The *Diario*, of to-day, says that Count VALMASEDA has already caused to the insurrectionists the loss of 570 men, killed and wounded, and that his march from Puerto Principe to Nuevitas will add to the number.

The *Diario* also publishes an intercepted letter from the General of the insurrectionists to Gen. CESPEDES, in which the Marquis of Santa Lucia is reported to have been severely wounded.

The steamship *Bavaria* arrived to-day, from New-Orleans.

The Prussian war-steamers *Victoria* and *Germany*, and the French war-steamer *Surcouf*, have also arrived here.

A Man Attempts to Kill his Wife and Himself at Worcester, Mass.

WORCESTER, Mass., Saturday, Dec. 12.

A woman named Mrs. ENRIGHT, who keeps a grocery store in Canterbury-street, this city, was shot by her husband, LUKE TULLY, about noon to-day. TULLY was her second husband, and, after an absence of two years, returned a few days since. Her servant girl says that, about 12 o'clock to-day she heard a noise in the front store, (she being at the time at work in the kitchen,) and on going thither found Mrs. ENRIGHT prostrate on the floor, and TULLY standing over her, with a four-barreled revolver in his hand. At the moment of her entrance TULLY fired three shots at his wife, one of which lodged in the back of her head, another passed through the fingers of her right hand, and the third lodged in her wrist. The girl pushed TULLY away, when Mrs. ENRIGHT got up, and ran out the front door, and fell on the sidewalk. The girl then ran for an officer, and, upon returning, TULLY was found lying upon the bedroom floor, having shot himself through the head, and gashed his throat with a pair of shears. Mrs. ENRIGHT will recover, but TULLY cannot possibly survive.

An Alleged Murderer Arrested in Missouri—Indian Chiefs Suing the Government for Damages.

CHICAGO, Ill., Saturday, Dec. 12.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, charged with the murder of his mother and brothers in Platte County, Mo., some time ago, and for whose arrest a reward of $3,300 was offered, was captured last Sunday in Barry, Mo., and lodged in the Platte County Jail. The inducement to the crime was to secure the property which would revert to him at their death.

A special dispatch from Lawrence, Kansas, says that Capt. CHRISTIAN, the attorney for Keokuk, Mequakquag, Suffaquah, Manatomah and Wamcommio, the chiefs of the Sac and Fox tribes, is about to bring suit against Hon. CHARLES MIX, Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Col. CHARLES MURPHY, Superintendent of the Central Superintendency; Major WILEY, Agent of the Sacs and Foxes, and THOMAS DONWIN, Deputy United States Marshal, for false imprisonment, Keokuk and his friends claiming damages in $10,000. These Indians were arrested by the Indian Agent while in this city *en route* to Washington, on an order from the Indian Bureau not to allow the delegation of Indians to visit Washington except by permission of the Department, and were imprisoned, but were released upon a writ of *habeas corpus*.

LYNCH LAW.

Three More of the Indiana Express Mob Hung by the Regulators.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Saturday, Dec. 12.

A Vigilance Committee, said to hail from Seymour, Ind., arrived at New-Albany at 11 o'clock last night, and at 3 o'clock this morning proceeded to the Floyd County Jail and demanded admission, which was refused by the jailer, who was, however, soon overpowered and bound. The watchman was then compelled to open the cells of the notorious express robbers, JOHN, FRANK and SIMON RENO, and CHARLES ANDERSON, who were immediately seized upon and all four of them hung. FRANK RENO fought desperately for his life. The Committee then returned on the 7 o'clock train this morning. Two of the robbers, FRANK RENO and CHARLES RENO, had but recently arrived from Canada, where they had been tried under the Extradition laws.

All the telegraph wires on the line of the Jeffersonville Railroad were found connected together and communicating with the ground about one-half mile north of Seymour. It is supposed to have been done by the Seymour Regulators before going to New-Albany.

Another Account of the Lynching—Desperate Struggle of the Victims.

LOUISVILLE, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Additional particulars of the tragedy at New-Albany have been received. About 3 o'clock this morning LUTHER WHITTEN, one of the outside guards of the jail, was met at the entrance by a party of men, who presented pistols to him, demanding his silence or death. WHITTEN shouted, however, but was seized, knocked down and informed that if he shouted again he should die. By this time the jail-office was filled with men searching for the keys. Sheriff FULLENLOVE, understanding the situation, came down from his sleeping apartment, and gained the door leading to the grounds on the west side of the jail. Here he met a force armed with pistols, which were directed at him. He exclaimed: "Gentlemen, don't shoot me; I am the Sheriff." But one of the band fired a shot, which took effect in the Sheriff's right arm, inflicting a serious and painful wound. The keys were demanded, but he positively refused to surrender them. About a dozen of the b nd then entered FULLENLOVE'S room, where his wife lay in bed, and demanded the jail keys of her, but she refused to surrender them. They succeeded in finding them, however, concealed in a drawer. THOMAS MATHEWS, one of the inside guards, was then compelled to open the cells of the men whom the mob had determined to hang. FRANK and WILLIAM RENO were the first victims. They were dragged out and hung along side of each other on the same pillar. SIMON RENO was then brought out, but he fought the mob with great desperation, knocking one or two of them down before he was overpowered and left suspended between the ceiling and the floor.

CHARLES ANDERSON, who was the last victim, was heard to beg for the privilege of praying; but this request was refused, and he was hung at the southwest corner of the jail.

After a further threat to kill the Sheriff, the mob proceeded to the train, carrying with them the jail keys.

Armed men stood guard to prevent any alarm from being given. At 4 o'clock the train, with the entire party, consisting of from seventy-five to one hundred men, started off. They came well armed and equipped for the work. They intended to hang a man named CLARK, the murderer of GEORGE TILL, but they concluded not to do so, fearing to remain any longer.

The band came from Seymour, Ind., in a car by themselves, which was attached to the regular train.

CHARLES ANDERSON and FRANK RENO were surrendered by the Canadian authorities upon the solemn pledge of the United States Government that they should have a fair trial, and, if found innocent, be returned to Canada.

THE WEATHER.

Intense Cold Throughout the Country—Navigation Closed on the Lakes and Rivers.

KANSAS CITY, Friday, Dec. 11.

The weather yesterday and to-day has been the coldest that has been experienced at this place since 1855. The thermometer at 8 o'clock this morning marked 15° below zero. The river is gorged above the bridge, leaving a clear harbor for the ferries, which have resumed communication with the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Navigation was suspended yesterday by the Underwriters putting an embargo on the steamers. The river bank is full of heavy ice, but the water being five or six feet higher than is usual at this season little apprehension is felt of a gorge. The Illinois River is reported frozen over its entire length, and the Missouri is supposed to be gorged a few miles above its mouth. The theory with some is that the Mississippi will gorge at Quincy bridge, that all the ice below will run out, leaving clear water from that point to Cairo, and that navigation south will be resumed in a few days. The weather for the past two days has been colder than has been known here in December for thirty-two years. Mercury sank to 14° below zero yesterday, and ranged from 4° to 9° below last night. However, the temperature has materially moderated since. The thermometer now marks 3° above. The ferry company yesterday tested the powers of their ice-breaker. Free ferry communication with the Illinois shore is now made certain, no matter how much ice may accumulate, and rapid and safe transit of passengers and freight during the Winter is assured.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Saturday, Dec. 12.

The weather is extremely cold.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Saturday, Dec. 12.

There was a heavy frost in this section last night, and it has been freezing all day in the shade. The wind is moderate from the Northeast.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Saturday, Dec. 12.

The weather is clear and cold; thermometer 33°.

The Small-Pox in California—Another Tidal Wave in the Pacific.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 11.

A meeting of prominent citizens was held last night, which adopted stringent measures to prevent the further spread of the small-pox. The disease has prevailed in the city since June last, but has increased to an alarming extent recently, 120 new cases having occurred since the 1st of December. During the past six months 1,110 cases were reported to the Health Officer, and there were 308 deaths. The disease prevails to a certain extent throughout the State. The small villages in the southern portion have suffered fearfully by it.

Under instructions from Washington the Coast Survey schooner *W. L. Marcy* made a careful search for the shoal recently reported off the Farallone Islands. She found no indication of shoal water.

The ship *Isaac Jessa*, which arrived at Port Townsend last week, reports that when a few days out from Acapulco she encountered three fearful tidal waves filling all aboard with consternation. The ship would have foundered had she not been head on.

A Boy Convicted of Manslaughter in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The jury in the case of JOS. HART, tried for the murder of WM. MCKENNA, have returned a verdict of manslaughter, with a recommendation of the prisoner to the mercy of the Court. HART is aged 18 years. Seven other boys are to be tried for participating in the fight which resulted in the death of MCKENNA. Next Thursday has been fixed for the trial of the TWITCHELLS.

WASHINGTON.

Investigation of the Charges Against Judge Busteed—The Contested Election Cases—Affairs at the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

THE CHARGES AGAINST JUDGE BUSTEED.

The Judiciary Committee have appointed Messrs. LAWRENCE, CHURCHILL and ELDRIDGE a sub-committee to investigate the charges against Judge BUSTEED, Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Alabama, which were preferred by citizens of that State last Summer, and referred to this Committee.

PERSONAL.

Gen. GRANT, Secretary SCHOFIELD, Gens. THOMAS and TERRY and Admiral PORTER, with a large number of army officers and Western men, left town this evening to attend the army reunion at Chicago. A special car was placed at the disposal of Gen. GRANT and Secretary SCHOFIELD.

CONTESTED ELECTION.

The House Election Committee hope to finish the Tennessee contested election case on Monday, and will then take up the Georgia one.

THE DYER COURT OF INQUIRY.

The Dyer Court of Inquiry adjourned over last evening, to the 11th of next month, by direction of the Secretary of War.

AFFAIRS AT THE TREASURY.

Amount of fractional currency received from the Printing Bureau of the Treasury Department for the week ending to-day, $447,000.

Shipments.

To the Assistant Treasurer of New-York..	$100,000
To the Assistant Treasurer of Louisville..	50,000
To the National Banks.....	224,207
Treasurer Spinner holds in trust for the National Banks as security for circulation.....	341,721,900
And for public deposits.....	36,729,350
National Bank currency issued during the week.....	131,330
Total to date.....	311,151,786
Mutilated bills returned.....	10,394,320
National Bank Notes redeemed and destroyed.....	900,227
Actual circulation at this date.....	299,857,189
Fractional currency redeemed.....	344,000

MEMBERS GOING HOME.

It is calculated that at least three-fourths of the members of Congress will go home to enjoy the holidays.

THE DEATH OF THADDEUS STEVENS.

Arrangements have been made for the formal announcement of the death of THADDEUS STEVENS, in the House, on Thursday next. Numerous members will pronounce eulogies in honor of his memory.

THE OHIO RIVER DISASTER.

The Secretary of the Treasury has ordered the Supervising Inspector of Steamboats of the district in which the recent disaster on the Ohio River occurred to make a rigid examination of the causes of the same.

It is also understood that Mr. MCCULLOCH has recommended to the House Committee on Commerce, the repeal of all laws or parts of laws authorizing the carriage, as freight, of petroleum on steamers carrying passengers.

GEN. CUSTER'S FIGHT.

Col. Wynkoop, Indian Agent, Declares it was a Massacre, and Tenders His Resignation.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The Leavenworth *Commercial* publishes the resignation of Col. WYNKOOP, the agent of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians. The Colonel refers to the Sand Creek massacre, by Col. CHIVINGTON, the expedition of Gen. HANCOCK and its results, and says:

"I am now under orders to proceed to Fort Cobb, on the Washita River, and congregate what Indians I can of my agency at that point or vicinity. Since I have started on my journey thither, I have learned of some five different columns of troops in the field, whose objective point is the Washita River. The regular troops are under control, and commanded by officers who will not allow atrocities to be committed, but there are also in the field, under the sanction of the Government, volunteer troops and Ute and Osage Indians, (the deadly enemies of all the Plains Indians,) and whom nothing will prevent from murdering all, of whatever age or sex, wherever found. The point to which that portion are marching, who have expressed their determination to kill, under all circumstances, the Indians of my agency, is the point at which I am directed to congregate them, and they will readily respond to my call, but I must certainly refuse to again be the instrument of the murder of innocent women and children. While I remain an officer of the Government I propose to do my duty, a portion of which is to obey my instructions. All that is left me under the circumstances, and with the present state of feeling I have in this matter, is to respectfully tender my resignation and return my commission, which I have so far earnestly endeavored to fulfill the requirements of."

Col. WYNKOOP left here yesterday for Washington. He believes the late fight of Gen. CUSTER'S, on the Washita, was simply a massacre. He says Black Kettle and his band were friendly Indians, and were on their way to the reservation when attacked.

Illegality of the Virginia Courts—Important Decision by Judge Underwood.

RICHMOND, Va., Saturday, Dec. 12.

In the United States Circuit Court this morning, Judge UNDERWOOD presiding, the case of SALLY ANDERSON, sentenced to death by the County Court for arson, was brought up on a writ of *habeas corpus* on the ground that one of the Magistrates composing the Court which tried her, had held the office of constable during the war; and being thereby disqualified under the Fourteenth Amendment, the whole Court was illegal and its proceedings vitiated. Judge UNDERWOOD sustained the prisoner's plea and discharged her from custody. In delivering his opinion he said: "If even the Clerk of the Court that tried the case was disqualified, it vitiated the proceedings." There are a hundred and fifty-nine convicts in the State Prison, sentenced since the adoption of the amendment, who may now be released by *habeas corpus* and turned loose under this decision.

GEORGE W. COOK was to-day sentenced in the United States District Court to ten years' imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary for robbing the mails.

The *State Journal* announces that the the Stay law will not be extended. It says a general law suspending sales of personal property till the 1st of May next will soon be issued, but real estate may be proceeded against after Jan. 1 as if no Stay law had been passed.

The Recent Disaster on the Ohio River—Sixty-five Persons Lost—Arrest of Tobacco Dealers.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Saturday, Dec. 12.

It is thought that the number of lives lost by the burning of the steamers *America* and *United States*, near Warsaw, Ky., will not exceed sixty-five. Fifty-four bodies have been recovered.

THOMAS REID, a tobacco inspector, and eleven tobacco firms, were indicted in Covington yesterday by the United States Grand Jury, on a charge of conspiring to defraud the Government, by making incorrect returns of sales to the Assessor. They were held to bail in the sum of $4,000 each, to answer before the United States Court.

Extensive Fire in St. Louis—List of Insurances.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The clothing and shoe house of L. F. GREEN & Co., on North Main-street, were nearly destroyed by fire this morning. The stock was valued at from $40,000 to $50,000, and was insured as follows: In the Lamar, Phenix, Manhattan, Home and Security, of New-York, $5,000 each; in the Putnam and Phenix, of Hartford, $5,000 each; in the National, at Boston, $10,000; in the New-England, of Boston, $5,000; in the Cleveland, of Cleveland, $5,000; in the North British America, of Philadelphia, $5,000; total, $65,000. The adjoining buildings were damaged slightly by water and smoke, but they were insured.

Lieut.-Gov. Gleason, of Florida, Before the Supreme Court.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Saturday, Dec. 12.

On the meeting of the Supreme Court to-day, contrary to expectation, Lieut.-Gov. GLEASON appeared by counsel, and pleaded and asked more time, which was granted, and an extension of one day afforded him.

Burning of the Steamship Crescent at New-Orleans—Ten Persons Injured.

NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The steamship *Crescent*, of the New-Orleans and Galveston line, took fire last night at her wharf, and was entirely destroyed. The loss is estimated at $200,000. There was no insurance, as the Morgan Line takes its own risks. She had about 2,500 barrels of freight on board, which was partly underwritten by the vessel's owners. The fire at one time was partially subdued, when an explosion occurred in the hold, injuring ten firemen, one of them mortally and several severely. The wreck sunk.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Month of November—Country Scenes—Social Pastimes—A Celebrity—Honors to Hon. Reverdy Johnson—An American Artist in London.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BRISTOL, Saturday, Nov. 28, 1868.

November, in England, as you may have read before, is rather a gloomy month. Even if you have a bright sunny day it is of necessity a short one, for the sun, which is visible at 9, sets punctually at 3 o'clock, and you must light gas or candles at 4. Suppose you go out to concert or opera, there are four hours of darkness intervening. If to a party, where you are not expected before 11, the best way is to go to bed for six hours while waiting. Most of the time a thick fog hangs over the whole country, into which you can see an eighth or quarter of a mile, and through which everything looks ghostly. This fog is the blanket which keeps us warm. The condensation of the vapor which forms it also sets free the latent heat which makes cabbages grow all Winter. Sunshine does not seem of so much consequence here as in some places. Mr. ERICSSON'S sun engine will never go in this climate. The internal heat of the earth, and the imported tropic heat of the Gulf stream, give us just the alternations of steam, fog and drizzle, that make this "the honly country in the world where you can be really comfortable."

COUNTRY SCENES.

Making my observations of this capital of the west of England, which has more individuality of character than the great metropolis, and is as disunctive as Edinburgh or Dublin, I thought it right, after a survey of the beauties and grandeurs of Clifton, the West End, Fifth-avenue and Central Park of Bristol, to run down to its famous pleasure town by the sea—Weston-super-Mare. It is a pretty run of twenty miles, through the beautiful and fertile County of Somerset. It is rich in its soil, in its coal and its climate—fat, warm, and tempered by the Gulf stream breezes. And this rich country is covered all over with old churches, old castles, great country houses, parks full of whirring pheasants and antlered deer. It is true that agricultural laborers get only nine or ten shillings a week and find themselves; but the farmers make money and the landlords have great revenues. The language of this country is peculiar—its dialect or *patois*. Here is a sample I cut from a political poem in a Tory paper:

"Be that as it mid, I do very well zee,
Be it new, valse, or trew, doant matter to he,
To spatter wie mud is zuvvishent, and this
Be all that he wants, so zum on it stick.

No ma'son, I zay, need come a nezat I,
To ax vor my vrik,—and I'll tell'ee vor why,
For I knaws as well or better nor he,
Who ma'se of old England the girt country her be.

Not them as goes zellin', loike cheapjacks at vairs,
As Vreeman and Tagart their countervit wares,
Who 'ood, tho' they vound 'at it 'ot be zaen,
Zoon gie us a President 'stead of a Queen."

Even Mr. BRIGHT, I believe, does not propose to extend the suffrage to the residuum of people who talk that way—not till he has seen the working of negro suffrage in America.

Weston-super-Mare was a beautiful surprise to me. There is a pretty bay, sheltered by a high, bold promontory. In the offing are picturesque, rocky islands, to which parties sail off in Summer on picnic excursions. A handsome pier leads off from a limestone cliff to a small island. There is a mile of fine sandy beach, in a semicircular sweep, glorious for walks, drives, riding and bathing. Then the town is built on the southern slope of a hill, in handsome villas and stately terraces, rising one above the other some 600 or 800 feet. There is everything in nature and architecture to make the place a delightful Summer resort, and no place in England can exceed it in salubrity.

In fact, the healthfulness of this whole region is something remarkable. Bristol, an old, thickly-populated, manufacturing and commercial town, a large portion of it with narrow streets and houses hundreds of years old overhanging the streets, as if they were nodding and just ready to fall, is yet the healthiest of the large towns of England. The death-rate of London is 24 in 1,000; other towns, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, run to 30 or 40; in Bristol it is 16. I attribute the fact to the geological formation and the sweep of the sea. Here are fossiliferous limestone, sandstone, oolite, thrown up by volcanic action, and penetrated by quartz. The soil is a *débris* of these materials, beneath are thick strata of carbon. Then the great ocean sweeps up this broad channel, and all the rivers with tides of thirty to seventy feet, washing the whole region twice every twenty-four hours, tempering the air and giving a fresh purity to the whole coast. Opposite, ten miles across from Weston, and in a clear day plainly visible, is Cardiff and the picturesque coast of South Wales. The buildings of Weston-super-Mare are mostly of the native limestone, or the Bath oolite. The style is not so varied and picturesquely Gothic as at Malvern, nor so elaborately ornate as at Bristol, but very solid, handsome and appropriate. One of the finest ecclesiastical edifices in the place—quite a gem of mediæval Gothic—is a Baptist Chapel, and around it the finest show of chrysanthemums I have seen this Autumn. I know of no reason why the Baptists, here or at Worcester, should not indulge their tastes in costly and ornate architecture, and beat the Ritualists, if they can, on their own ground; but after my observations of dingy and barn-like conventicles and shabby little Gideons, Bethesdas and Ebenezers in London, the appearance of these ornate and ambitious edifices seems whimsically inappropriate.

Paying my toll for a walk on the pier, I encountered a grumbling toll-taker who had seen the world. He had been to America, and was consequently discontented with the slow way in which things were done at home. "If the Yankees only had this place," he was saying as I came up, to an Englishman, "they would make something of it." I stopped and fumbled for my pennies to hear the rest of his discourse. "They would have a big hotel here," said he, and know how to keep it. They can do it, because one Yankee will do as much as six Englishmen, so they can charge reasonable prices and make it pay. They would have a pretty steamer, too, runing down to the Islands, and a regular line to Cardiff." It was evident that the man believed that half a dozen wide-awake Yankees here would make things lively, and fill his toll-box to overflowing. Not a doubt of it. There is a great field for the right sort of Yankees in England. Capital in unnumbered millions lies waste for the want of somebody to make it realize that Englishman's dream of bliss—six per cent. The sort of men wanted are such as are wide awake without being actually crazy; adventurous, but clear-headed, with plenty of tact, and, if possible, honesty, or something which answers the purpose. This lovely little city by the sea could be made a paradise; English manners and customs make it as dull as it is beautiful. An Englishman comes to Weston-super-Mare—a stranger, looking for health or pleasure. He takes a furnished room in a seaside lodging-house. Three or five times a day he has served to him his solitary meal. He reads the papers, magazines, perhaps a novel from the circulating library. He takes his solitary walk, ride, bath. He is as utterly alone as Robinson Crusoe, before he found Friday. What can a man do in such deplorable circumstances? He must either smoke constantly, or take to drink, or rush off to the Continent. The moment he gets over there he finds everybody pleasant, chatty, hospitable—even the English melt, and talk to their neighbors—they really do—without an introduction.

Here at home there are those who have nice ways, if you happen to know them, and are lucky enough to fall into them. For example, driving yesterday at 3 P. M., the fashionable morning, to a large house on one of the elegant Clifton terraces, I found a very charming company assembled to a musical *matinée*. The first piece I heard was the "Overture to Massaniello," played on piano-forte, harp, flute and violoncello. The violin had not arrived. Afterward we had delightful *morceauz* of MOZART, BEETHOVEN, a duet from the *Stabat Mater* of ROSSINI, on two flutes, with harp accompaniment, and a very charming concert, and very nice tea and coffee. For ten years, perhaps longer, the two sisters who reside in this mansion, one of whom is an accomplished player on the harp, have gathered their musical and music-loving friends around them once a week, and made their home a centre of artistic and refined society. This is very delightful, and the solid persistence in a course once entered upon—an utter unweariness in well-doing—is one of the best of English characteristics. If there are any English saints—and I mean to introduce a few to you in my next letter—there can be little doubt of their final perseverance.

A CELEBRITY.

Among the celebrities I have met in Bristol, and at this delightful *matinée musicale*, is Signor DAMIANI, a Sicilian of noble family, who came to England many years ago, married an English lady of a wealthy family here (manufacturers) with an income of £80,000 a year, who, with other accomplishments, is a musical amateur of exquisite talent, and from his honor, intelligence, suavity and benevolence is a general favorite. I mention him especially on account of a pamphlet he has just published—"*Spiritualism* vs. *Positivism*: being a letter and a challenge to G. H. LEWES, Esq., Prof. TYNDALL, *et hoc genus cœcorum*." Signor DAMIANI, an Italian Liberal of the most advanced type, a man of science, and a confirmed Comtist and Materialist, was converted three or four years ago to Spiritualism. LEWES and TYNDALL denounce all Spiritualists as knaves or fools. Signor DAMIANI denounces scientific teachers who refuse to examine the phenomena of Spiritualism as guilty of folly or dishonesty; but he goes farther—he backs his assertions with hard cash. He offers a wager of £500 that he will prove the facts he asserts by testimony which shall convince a majority of a fairly-selected jury of twenty-four literary and scientific gentlemen, and a further wager of £500 that he will convince a similar jury by actual experiment. A bet proves nothing—but it spikes the enemy's artillery. It enables the Spiritualists to say to the Materialists, "Here are our facts, and we are ready to stake our money on them; dare you risk a thousand pounds on your negatious?" The *Pall Mall Gazette*, which has been the organ of the Comtists, very fairly copies the challenge of the Ex-Comtist, Signor DAMIANI. I do not think he will have a chance to win his bet; but he plays the flute delightfully.

HONORS TO HON. REVERDY JOHNSON.

You will be happy to hear that the Reform League is about to console itself for the defeat of its President and most if not all of its aspiring members in the late election, by giving an ovation to Mr. REVERDY JOHNSON. An immense workingmen's banquet was first proposed, but that is costly and inconvenient, so they have fixed upon a feast of complimentary speeches at St. James' Hall. The upper and middle classes have been feting Mr. JOHNSON ever since he came to England, and now the workingmen, who have fought the battle of reform and lost the spoils of victory, will take their turn in glorifying Mr. WENDELL PHILLIPS' "half harlequin, half traitor," who is, undoubtedly, the most popular foreign Minister who ever set his foot in England. Certainly, nothing could be more undiplomatic than his whole conduct, but, perhaps, on that very account, nothing could be more popular. A successful Minister should carry the olive branch in one hand, like the American eagle, and a bundle of arrows in the other. Mr. JOHNSON flourishes the olive branch vigorously, but I presume he has the arrows in his coat pocket. When the late Count WALEWSKI was Minister to England, at the time of the *coup d'etat*, he demanded the recognition of the Empire. No European Government had recognized it, and England, naturally, remembering the 100 days of the first Empire, did not wish to take the lead. But it was necessary that somebody should begin—England was the nearest, and war with England was then, if not now, the best card a NAPOLEON could play. If England remembered the hundred days, LOUIS NAPOLEON and WALEWSKI did not forget St. Helena. Recognition or instant war was the sharp ultimatum. England chose recognition, and her example was immediately followed by all the Powers of Europe. But Count WALEWSKI had no banquets.

AN AMERICAN ARTISTE.

I was much pleased to record the success of Miss MINNIE HAUCK at her first appearance as *Amina*. That you may not suppose me too partial to an American prima donna, I copy the following criticism from the London *Morning Herald*:

"Her second appearance as *Zerlina* in 'Don Giovanni' was a great improvement, and her third, as *Marguerita*, in GUONOD'S 'Faust,' is still further improvement, which, indeed, may be said to have seized hold of London in one night. The conception of M. GUONOD'S *Gretchen*, by Miss MINNIE HAUCK, is extremely touching, and there is no doubt she is deeply infused with the poetic sentiment. Her scenes in the garden, from the point of view of setting, have hardly been surpassed, while the singing, despite sundry physical deteriorations, exhibited numberless excellences and beauties. The voice of Miss MINNIE HAUCK is hardly yet matured; but the means are so capable, the quality so beautiful, and the intonation so invariably true, that the very greatest expectations may be formed that she may become one of the leading vocalists of the day. At present youth and inexperience are against her, but these are sure to be overcome, and the young American singer is already spoken of as worthy of mention in the same category with the bright particular stars of the musical hemisphere."

While you were celebrating the election of Gen. GRANT to the Presidency of the United States, JEFFERSON DAVIS was making a speech at Leamington, at which pretty town he is now residing for his health. The *Star*, which for some reason is not so friendly to Mr. DAVIS, as one might wish an English journal to be to a distinguished American, says it was probably the best speech he ever made in his life. He moved in the English fashion, but not in the absurd and fulsome English manner, a vote of thanks to a clergyman for a lecture on the recent explorations at Jernsalem, among the foundation walls and sewers of the ancient city. *Moral:* If they had hanged JEFF. DAVIS on a sour apple tree in Virginia, he would not have been drinking the waters at Leamington Spa, and making eloquent speeches about Jerusalem.

MONADNOCK.

SPAIN

The Situation—Troublous Prospects—Revenue Matters—New Loan—New Electoral Law for Cuba.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MADRID, Wednesday, Nov. 25.

The position of affairs here is daily becoming more difficult and perilous. The Government irritated at the success of the Republicans in the provinces is evidently making up its mind to employ force to crush them, whilst the Republicans, on their side, exultant at their progress, are becoming forgetful of the prudence and moderation which at first characterized their proceedings, and which are so necessary to the realization of their programme. Thus at Orense they entered a building where a meeting of monarchists was being held, and dispersed them by their menacing cries and attitude. It is said that the Secretary of the Prefecture was at the head of the rioters. At Malaga the republican demonstrations are daily becoming more disquieting. So long as they were confined to peaceable expressions of opinion they afforded no pretext for interference on the part of the authorities. But now the Phrygian cap and poniard are being freely displayed on their banners, and they do not scruple to impart to their emblems a still more threatening significance by cries of "The Republic or Death."

It is manifest that for all this appearance of feeling there is but one effectual check, and that is a prompt appeal to the national will, as expressed through the Cortes. Nothing else can satisfy the popular impatience or silence the disturbers of public order, who, be it remembered, are in most cases only reactionists, using the Republican banner for their sinister objects. Unhappily, this consummation, so devoutly to be wished for, seems to be eluding all our efforts to arrive at it. A fresh decree of the Government postpones the elections of the Ayuntamientos, which had been fixed for the 1st of December to the 18th, on the double ground that the time was too short for the preliminary operations, and "that turbulent minorities were seeking to impose their will upon the great mass of peaceable citizens." As the new Ayuntamientos cannot, under the terms of this decree, be formally constituted before the first of the new year, nor the provisional deputations decide on the pending claims before the 13th, it follows that it will be the end of January before the Cortes can possibly be assembled. God knows what will happen before then. If the men at the head of the Government, who are pledged to certain pretenders, find the current of republican sentiment becoming too stormy for them, there is every reason to fear that a *coup d'etat* will be attempted. It is all very well for men like SERRANO and PRIM to profess a readiness to abide by the decision of the Cortes. So long as there is any reason to hope that that decision will be in unison with their personal interests, undoubtedly they will do so. But let them ascertain from the tone of the popular feeling in the Provinces, that the Republicans are likely to command such a number of Representatives in that body, as will either give them a majority or enable them to carry the election of ESPARTERO as King, which is the ultimatum resolved upon, in case they cannot secure their favorite form of government, and you will see that they will at once provoke a conflict which will lead to a military triumvirate or dictatorship, and from that to a Monarchy, very different from the democratic ordeal so glowingly depicted in the manifestoes of the three parties.

It will probably be objected to these views that the Generals at the head of the Government have given sufficient proofs of their patriotism to tranquilize any apprehensions such as I have expressed. Since I have been in Spain I have learned and unlearned many things. There is nothing which corrects preconceived notions of men and things like personal observation. It grieves me to have lost faith in the men who at present hold the destinies of the country in their hands, but one must be true to his convictions. I trust that my forebodings will be disappointed. They are gloomy enough, Heaven knows, to admit of an agreeable surprise, even though some of the measures of repression talked of should be carried into execution. There is a difference between measures of political necessity and acts dictated by personal ambition. The country will not be slow in drawing the line between them.

REVENUE REDUCTIONS.

The great difficulty of all Revolutionary Governments is their inability to keep the pledges made in the full flush of victory and excitement. Their performances must always fall short of their promises, and the disappointments to which their failures give rise are so many additional embarrassments for them. The Minister of Finance finds himself in this position just now. In my last letter I mentioned to you that he had been compelled to suppress the regulation by which importers had enjoyed a reduction of thirty-three per cent, on all merchandise brought into the country since the 16th of October, and furthermore to compel them to pay the difference. This latter provision is, on the face of it, unjust, for a large portion of the goods thus imported has been sold at prices corresponding with the reduction, and to compel merchants to reimburse the difference is to inflict so much positive loss upon them. This, no Government, whatever may be its necessities, has a right to do; and unless the Minister backs down, it will create a strong feeling of hostility against it among the very class whose support it most needs.

THE NEW LOAN.

The subscriptions to the new loan progress steadily. Yesterday they had reached the handsome total of 188,808,000 of reals, or upward of $9,000,000, exclusive of the subscriptions of the Provinces. An encouraging feature in the list of yesterday is the appearance of the names of the Duo DE MEDINA-CALI and the Duo DE FRIAS in it, the former for a million and the latter for 200,000 reals. M. MENDOZA CORTINAS' name is down for three millions. The negotiation with the house of ROTHSCHILD in Paris was concluded yesterday. By the contract the debt due by the Government to that firm is absorbed in the new loan, and the interest of the coupons falling due on the 1st of January is provided for. By a decree of the Minister published in Monday's *Gazette*, the following modifications are made in the arrangements concerning the loan. The subscription is to continue open until the 15th of December next; but the liquidation of the interest of the values presented is to comprise merely those which have fallen due to the 24th of November inclusive. Amongst the values admitted in the subscription to the new loan conformably to the decree of the 28th of October last, are comprised the coupons and other values payable by the Treasury and due within the present six months, and also the values that the State may acquire by *amortissement*. In order to facilitate this latter operation, the drawing by lot for the liquidation of these values will be made before the ordinary epoch. The certificates of the present loan will be admitted for their full nominal value in payment of the national estates sold by the State, and especially affected for the payment of the loan and its interest, as well as of those which may be subsequently devoted by the State to the same object. The interests of deposits, the titles of which have been applied to the subscription to the full amount of the capital which they represent, can be paid in specie to the persons who demand it, as has been done in the case of renewed deposits. If the title of a deposit is not sufficient to acquire a full number of the certificates of the loan, the Government can pay to the bearer the difference in money, or give him a memorandum for the residue unemployed. On the emission of the titles of the new loan, these residues will be exchanged against the titles of the fresh loan for their full value. These arrangements will contribute

CURRENT LITERATURE.

AFTER THE BURIAL.

BY JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

Yes, Faith is a goodly anchor;
When skies are sweet as a psalm,
At the bows it lolls so stalwart,
In bluff, broad-shouldered calm.

And when over breakers to leeward
The tattered surges are hurled,
It may keep our head to the tempest,
With its grip on the base of the world.

But, after the shipwreck, tell me
What help in its iron thews,
Still true to the broken hawser,
Deep down among sea-weed and ooze?

In the breaking gulfs of sorrow,
When the helpless feet stretch out
And find in the deeps of darkness
No footing so solid as doubt,

Then better one spar of Memory,
One broken plank of the Past,
That our human heart may cling to,
Though hopeless of shore at last!

To the spirit its splendid conjectures,
To the flesh its sweet despair,
Its tears o'er the thin-worn locket
With its anguish of deathless hair!

Immortal? I feel it and know it,
Who doubts it of such as she?
But that is the pang's very secret,—
Immortal away from me.

There's a narrow ridge in the graveyard
Would scarce stay a child in his race,
But to me and my thought it is wider
Than the star-sown vague of Space.

Your logic, my friend, is perfect,
Your morals most drearily true;
But, since the earth clashed on *her* coffin,
I keep hearing that, and not you.

Console if you will, I can bear it;
'Tis a well-meant alms of breath;
But not all the preaching since Adam
Has made Death other than Death.

It is pagan; but wait till you feel it—
That jar of our earth, that dull shock
When the ploughshare of deeper passion
Tears down to our primitive rock.

Communion in spirit! Forgive me,
But I, who am earthy and weak,
Would give all my incomes from dreamland
For a touch of her hand on my cheek.

That little shoe in the corner,
So worn and wrinkled and brown,
With its emptiness consoles you,
And argues your wisdom down.

—*From "Under the Willows, and Other Poems."*

NEW UNCOMMERCIAL SAMPLES.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

From Every Saturday for Dec. 19.

ABOARD SHIP.

My journeyings as Uncommercial Traveler for the firm of Human Interest Brothers have not slackened since I last reported of them, but have kept me continually on the move. I remain in the same idle employment. I never solicit an order, I never get any commission, I am the rolling stone that gathers no moss—unless any should, by chance, be found among these Samples.

Some half year ago I found myself in my idlest, dreamiest, and least accountable condition altogether, on board ship, in the harbor of the City of New-York, in the United States of America. Of all the good ships afloat, mine was the good steamship *Russia*, Capt. Cook, Cunard line, bound for Liverpool. What more could I wish for?

I had nothing to wish for but a prosperous passage. My salad-days, when I was green of visage and sea-sick, being gone with better things, (and worse,) no coming event cast its shadow before.

I might, but a few moments previously, have imitated Sterne, and said, "'And yet, methinks, Eugenius'—laying my forefinger wistfully on his coat-sleeve, thus—'and yet, methinks, Eugenius, 'tis but sorry work to part with thee, for what fresh fields....my dear Eugenius.... can be fresher than thou art, and in what pastures shall I find Eliza—or call her Eugenius, if thou wilt, Annie,'"—I say I might have done this; but Eugenius was gone and I hadn't done it.

I was resting on a skylight on the hurricane deck, watching the working of the ship very slowly about, that she might head for England. It was high noon on a most brilliant day in April, and the beautiful bay was glorious and glowing. Full many a time, on shore there, had I seen the snow come down, down, down, (itself like down,) until it lay deep in all the ways of men, and particularly, as it seemed, in my way, for I had not gone dry-shod many hours for months. Within two or three days last past had I watched the feathery fall setting in with the ardor of a new idea, instead of dragging at the skirts of a worn-out Winter, and permitting glimpses of a fresh young Spring. But a bright sun and a clear sky had melted the snow in the great crucible of nature, and it had been poured out again that morning over sea and land, transformed into myriads of gold and silver sparkles.

The ship was fragrant with flowers. Something of the old Mexican passion for flowers may have gradually passed into North America, where flowers are luxuriously grown and tastefully combined in the richest profusion; but, be that as it may, such gorgeous tarry-ills in flowers had come on board, that the small officer's cabin on deck, which I tenanted, bloomed over into the adjacent scuppers, and banks of other flowers that it couldn't hold, made a garden of the unoccupied tables in the passengers' saloon. These delicious scents of the shore, mingling with the fresh airs of the sea, made the atmospaere a dreamy, an enchanting one. And so, with the watch aloft setting all the sails, and with the screw below revolving at a mighty rate, and occasionally giving the ship an angry shake for resisting, I fell into my idlest ways and lost myself.

As, for instance, whether it was I lying there, or some other entity even more mysterious, was a matter I was far too lazy to look into. What did it signify to me if it were I—or to the more mysterious entity—if it were he? Equally as to the remembrances that drowsily floated by me, —or by him,—why ask when, or where, the things happened? Was it not enough that they befell at some time, somewhere?

There was that assisting at the church service on board another steamship, one Sunday, in a stiff breeze. Perhaps on the passage out. No matter. Pleasant to hear the ship's bells go, as like church bells as they could; pleasant to see watch off deck mustered, and come in; best hats, best Guernseys, washed hands and faces, smoothed heads. But then arose a set of circumstances so rampantly comical, that no check which the gravest intentions could put upon them would hold them in hand. Thus the scene. Some seventy passengers assembled at the saloon tables. Prayer books on tables. Ship rolling heavily. Pause. No minister. Rumor has related that a modest young clergyman on board has responded to the Captain's request that he will officiate. Pause again, and very heavy rolling.

Closed double doors suddenly burst open, and two strong stewards skate in, supporting minister between him. General appearance as of somebody picked up, drunk and incapable, and under conveyance to station-house. Stoppage, pause, and particularly heavy rolling. Stewards watch their opportunity and balance themselves, but cannot balance minister, who, struggling with a drooping head and a backward tendency, seems determined to return below, while they are as determined that he shall be got to the reading desk in mid-saloon. Desk portable, sliding away down a long table, and aiming itself at the breasts of various members of the congregation. Here the double doors, which have been carefully closed by other stewards, fly open again, and worldly passenger tumbles in, seemingly with pale ale designs: who, seeking friend, says "Joe!" Perceiving incongruity, says "Hullo! Beg yer pardon!" and tumbles out again. All this time the congregation have been breaking up into sects—as the manner of congregations often is—each sect sliding away by itself, and all pounding the weakest sect which could first into the corner. Utmost point of these sects attained in every corner, and violent rolling. Stewards at length make a dash; conduct minister to the mast in the centre of the saloon, which he embraces with both arms; skate out, and leave him in that condition to arrange affairs with flock.

There was another Sunday, when an officer of the ship read the service. It was quiet and impressive, until we fell upon the dangerous and perfectly unnecessary experiment of striking up a hymn. After it was given out, we all rose, but everybody left it to somebody else to begin. Silence resulting, the officer (no singer himself) rather recklessly gave us the first line again, upon which a rosy pippin of an old gentleman, remarkable throughout the passage for his cheerful politeness, gave a little stamp with his boot, (as if he were leading off a country dance,) and whither warbled us into a show of joining. At the end of the first verse we became, through these tactics, so much refreshed and encouraged, that none of us, howsoever unmelodious, would submit to be left out of the second verse; while as to the third we lifted up our voices in a sacred bawl that left it doubtful whether we were the more boastful of the sentiments we united in professing, or of professing them with a most discordant defiance of time and tune.

"Lord bless us," thought I, when the fresh remembrance of these things made me laugh heartily, alone in the dead water-gurgling waste of the night, what time I was wedged into my berth by a wooden bar, or I must have rolled out of it, "what errand was I then upon, or to what Abyssinian point had public events then marched? No matter as to me. And as to them, if the wonderful popular rage for a plaything (utterly confounding in its inscrutable unreason) had not lighted on a poor young savage boy, and a poor old screw of a horse, and hauled the first off by the hair of his princely head to 'inspect' British volunteers, and hauled the second off by the hair of his equine tail to the Crystal Palace, why so much the better for all of us outside Bedlam!"

So, stacking to the ship, I was at the trouble of asking myself would I like to show the grog distribution in "the fiddle" at noon, to the Grand United Amalgamated Total Abstinence Society. Yes, I think I should. I think it would do them good to smell the rum, under the circumstances. Over the grog, mixed in a bucket, presides the boatswain's mate, small tin can in hand. Enter the crew, the guilty consumers, the grown-up brood of Giant Despair, in contradistinction to the band of youthful angel Hope. Some in boots, some in leggings, some in tarpaulin overalls, some in frocks, some in peacoats, a very few in jackets, most with sou'wester hats, all with something rough and rugged round the throat, all dripping salt water where they stand, all pelted with weather, besmeared with grease, and blackened by the sooty rigging.

Each man's knife in its sheath in his girdle, loosened for dinner. As the first man, with a knowingly kindled eye, watches the filling of the poisoned chalice, (truly but a very small tin mug, to be prosaic,) and tossing back his head, tosses the contents into himself, and passes the empty chalice and passes on, so the second man, with an anticipatory wipe of his mouth on sleeve or neckerchief, bides his turn, and drinks and hands, and passes on. In whom, and in each, as his turn approaches, beams a knowingly kindled eye, a brighter temper, and a suddenly awakened tendency to be joocse with some shipmate. Nor do I even observe that the man in charge of the ship's lamps, who in right of his office has a double allowance of poisoned chalices, seems thereby vastly degraded, even though he empties the chalices into himself, one after the other, much as if he were delivering their contents at some absorbent establishment in which he had no personal interest. But vastly comforted I note them all to be, on deck presently, even to the circulation of a redder blood in their cold blue knuckles; and when I look up at them lying out on the yards, and holding on for life among the beating sails, I cannot for my life see the justice of visiting on them—or on me—the drunken crimes of any number of criminals arraigned at the heaviest of Assizes.

Abetting myself in my idle humor, I closed my eyes and recalled life on board one of those mail packets, as I lay, part of that day, in the Bay of New-York O! The regular life began—mine always did, for I never got to sleep afterward—with the rigging of the pump while it was yet dark, and washing down of the decks. Any enormous giant at a prodigious hydropathic establishment, conscientiously undergoing the water cure in all its departments, and extremely particular about cleaning his teeth, would make these noises. Swash, splash scrub, rub, toothbrush, bubble, swash, splash, bubble, toothbrush, splash, splash, bubble, rub. Then the day would break, and, descending from my berth by a graceful ladder composed of half-opened drawers beneath it, I would reopen my outer dead-light and my inner sliding window (closed by a watchman during the water cure,) and would look out at the long-rolling, lead-colored, white-topped waves over which the dawn, on a cold Winter morning, cast a level, lonely glance, and through which the ship fought her melancholy way at a terrific rate. And now, lying down again, awaiting the season for broiled ham and tea, I would be compelled to listen to the voice of conscience,—the screw.

It might be, in some cases, no more than the voice of stomach, but I called it in my fancy by the higher name. Because it seemed to me that we were all of us, all day long, endeavoring to stifle the voice. Because it was under everybody's pillow, everybody's plate, everybody's camp-stool, everybody's book, everybody's occupation. Because, we pretended not to hear it, especially at meal times, evening whist, and morning conversation on deck; but it was always among us in an under monotone, not to be drowned in pea-soup, not to be shuffled with cards, not to be diverted by books, not to be knitted into any pattern, not to be walked away from. It was smoked in the weediest cigar, and drunk in the strongest cocktail; it was conveyed on deck at noon with limp ladies, who lay there in their wrappers until the stars shone; it waited at table with the stewards; nobody could put it out with the lights. It was considered (as on shore) ill-bred to acknowledge the voice of conscience. It was not polite to mention it. One equally day an amiable gentleman in love gave much offence to a surrounding circle, including the object of his attachment, by saying of it, after it had goaded him over two easy-chairs and a skylight, "Screw!"

Sometimes it would appear subdued. In fleeting moments, when bubbles of champagne pervaded the nose, or when there was "hot-pot" in the bill of fare, or when an old dish we had had regularly every day was described in that official document by a new name—under such excitements, one would almost believed it hushed. The ceremony of washing places on deck, performed after every meal by a circle as of ringers of crockery triple-bob majors for a prize, would keep it down. Hauling the reel, taking the sun at noon, posting the twenty-four hours' run altering the ship's time by the meridian, casting the waste food overboard, and attracting the eager gulls that followed in our wake: these events would suppress it for a while. But the instant any break or pause took place in any such diversion, the voice would be at it again, importuning us to the last extent. A newly married young pair, who walked the deck affectionately some twenty miles per day, would, in the full flush of their exercise, suddenly become stricken by it, and stand trembling, but otherwise immovable, under its reproaches.

When this terrible monitor was most severe with us was when the time approached for our retiring to our dens for the night. When the lighted candles in the saloon grew fewer and fewer. When the deserted glasses with spoons in them grew more and more numerous. When waifs of toasted cheese and strays of sardines fried in batter slid languidly to and fro in the table-racks. When the man who always read had shut up his book and blown out his candle. When the man who always talked ceased from troubling. When the man who was always medically reported as going to have delirium tremens had put it off till to-morrow. When the man who, every night, devoted himself to a midnight smoke on deck, two hours in length, and who every night was in bed within ten minutes afterward, was buttoning himself up in his third coat for his hardy vigil. For then, as we fell off one by one, and, entering our several hutches, came into a peculiar atmosphere of oilge-water and Windsor soap, the voice would shake us to the centre. Woe to us when we sat down on our sofa, watching the swinging candle forever trying and retrying to stand upon his head, or our coat upon its peg imitating us as we appeared in our gymnastic days by sustaining itself horizontally from the wall, in emulation of the lighter and more facile towels! Then would the voice especially claim us for its prey, and rend us all to pieces.

Lights out, we in our berths, and the wind rising, the voice grows angrier and deeper. Under the mattress and under the pillow, under the sofa and under the washing-stand, under the ship and under the sea, seeming to arise from the foundations under the earth with every scoop of the great Atlantic, (and O, why scoop so!) always the voice. Vain to deny its existence in the night season; impossible to be hard of hearing; Screw, Screw, Screw. Sometimes it lifts out of the water, and revolves with a whir, like a ferocious firework—except that it never expends itself, but is always ready to go off again; sometimes it seems to be anguish and shivers; sometimes it seems to be terrified by its last plunge, and has a fit which causes it to struggle, quiver, and for an instant stop. And now the ship sets in rolling, as only ships so fiercely screwed through time and space, day and night, fair weather and foul, *can* roll.

Did she ever take a roll before like that last? Did she ever take a roll before like this worse one that is coming now? Here is the partition at my ear down in the deep on the lee side. Are we ever coming up again together? I think not; the partition and I are so long about it that I really do believe we have overdone it this time. Heavens, what a scoop! What a deep scoop, what a hollow scoop, what a long scoop! Will it ever end, and can we bear the heavy mass of water we have taken on board, and which has let loose all the table furniture in the officers' mess, and has beaten open the door of the little passage between the purser and me, and is swashing about, even there and even here? The purser snores reassuringly, and, the ship's bells striking, I hear the cheerful "All's well!" of the watch manually given back the length of the deck, as the lately diving partition, now high in air, tries (unsoftened by what we have gone through together) to force me out of bed and berth.

"All's well!" Comforting to know, though surely all might be better. Pots aside, the rolling and the rush of water, and think of darting through such darkness with such velocity. Think of any other similar object coming in the opposite direction!

Whether there may be an attraction in two such moving bodies out at sea, which may help accident to bring them into collision? Thoughts, too, arose (the voice never silent all the while, but marvelously suggestive) of the gulf below: of the strange unfruitful mountain ranges and deep valleys over which we are passing; of monstrous fish, midway; of the ship's suddenly altering her course on her own account, and with a wild plunge settling down, and making *that* voyage, with a crew of dead discoverers. Now, too, one recalls an almost universal tendency on the part of passengers to stumble, at some time or other in the day, on the topic of a certain large steamer making this same run, which was lost at sea and never heard of more. Everybody has seemed under a spell, compelling approach to the threshold of the grim subject, stoppage, discomfiture, and pretence of never having been near it. The boatswain's whistle sounds! A change in the wind, hoarse orders issuing, and the watch very busy. Sails come crashing home overboard, ropes (that seem all knot) ditto; every man engaged appears to have twenty feet, with twenty times the average amount of stamping power in each. Gradually the noise slackens, the hoarse cries die away, the boatswain's whistle softens into soothing and contented notes, which rather reluctantly admit that the job is done for the time, and the voice sets in again.

Thus come unintelligible dreams of up hill and down hill, and swinging and swaying, until consciousness revives of atmospherical Windsor soap and bilge-water, and the voice announces that the giant has come for the water cure again.

Such were my fanciful reminiscences as I lay, part of that day, in the Bay of New-York O! Also, as we passed clear of the Narrows and got out to sea; also, in many an idle hour at sea in sunny weather. At length the observations and computations showed that we should make the coast of Ireland to-night. So I stood watch on deck all night, to see how we made the coast of Ireland.

Very dark, and the sea most brilliantly phosphorescent. Great way on the ship, and double lookouts kept. Vigilant Captain on the bridge, vigilant first officer looking over the port side, vigilant second officer standing by the quartermaster at the compass, vigilant third officer posted at the stern-rail with a lantern. No passengers on the quiet decks, but expectation everywhere nevertheless. The two men at the wheel, very steady, very serious and very prompt to answer orders. An order issued sharply now and then, and echoed back; otherwise, the night drags slowly, silently, and with no change.

All of a sudden, at the blank hour of two in the morning, a vague movement of relief from a long strain expresses itself in all hands; the third officer's lantern twinkles, and he fires a rocket, and another rocket. A sullen solitary light is pointed out to me in the black sky yonder. A change is expected in the light, but none takes place. "Give them two more rockets, Mr. Vigilant." Two more, and a blue light burned. All eyes watch the light again. At last a little toy skyrocket is flashed up from it, and, even as that small streak in the darkness dies away, we are telegraphed to Queenstown, Liverpool and London, and back again under the ocean to America.

Then, up come the half-dozen passengers who are going ashore at Queenstown, and up comes the mail agent in charge of the bags, and up come the men who are to carry the bags into the mail tender that will come off for them out of the harbor. Lamps and lanterns gleam here and there about the decks, and impeding bulks are knocked away with handspikes, and the port side bulwark, barren but a moment ago, bursts into a crop of heads of seamen, stewards and engineers.

The light begins to be gained upon, begins to be alongside, begins to be left astern. More rockets, and, between us and the land, steams beautifully the Inman steamship *City of Paris*, for New-York, outward bound. We observe with complacency that the wind is dead against her (it being with us,) and that she rolls and pitches. (The sickest passenger on board is the most delighted by this circumstance.) Time rushes by, as we rush on, and now we see the light in Queenstown Harbor, and now the lights of the mail tender coming out to us. What vagaries the mail tender performs on the way, in every point of the compass, especially in those where she has no business, and why she performs them, Heaven only knows! At length she is seen plunging within a cable's length of our port broadside, and is being roared at through our speaking-trumpets to do this thing, and not to do that, and to stand by the other, as if she were a very demented tender indeed. Then, we slackening amidst a deafening roar of steam, this much-abused Tender is made fast to us by hawsers, and the men in readiness carry the bags aboard, and return for more, bending under their burdens, and looking just like the pasteboard figures of the Miller and his Men in the theatre of our boyhood, and comporting themselves almost as unsteadily. All the while the unfortunate tender plunges high and low, and is roared at. Then the Queenstown passengers are put on board of her, with infinite plunging and roaring, and the tender gets heaved up on the sea to that surprising extent that she looks within an ace of washing aboard of us, high and dry. Roared at with contumely to the last, this wretched tender is at length let go, with a final plunge of great ignominy, and falls spinning into our wake.

The voice of conscience resumed its dominion as the day climbed up the sky, and kept by all of us passengers into port; kept by us as we passed other light-houses and dangerous islands off the coast, where some of the officers, with whom I stood my watch, had gone ashore in sailing ships in fogs (and of which in that token they seemed to have quite an affectionate remembrance,) and past the Welsh coast, and past the Cheshire coast, and past everything and everywhere lying between our ship and her own special dock in the Mersey. Off which, at last, at nine of the clock, on a fair evening early in May, we stopped, and the voice ceased. A very curious sensation, not unlike having my own ears stopped, ensued upon that silence, and it was with a no less curious sensation that I went over the side of the good Cunard ship *Russia*, (whom prosperity attend through all her voyages!) and surveyed the outer hull of the gracious monster that the voice had inhabited. So, perhaps, shall we all, in the spirit, one day survey the frame that held the busier voice, from which my vagrant fancy derived this similitude.

A KORAK VILLAGE.—Late one afternoon in November, as the long northern twilight was fading into the peculiar steely blue of an Arctic night, our dogs toiled slowly up the last summit of the Jamanca Mountains, and we looked down, from a height of more than two thousand feet, upon the dreary expanse of snow which stretched away from the base of the mountains at our feet to the far horizon. It was the land of the wandering Koraks. A cold breeze from the sea swept across the mountain top, soughing mournfully through the pines as it passed, and intensifying the loneliness and silence of the white wintry landscape. The faint pale light of the vanishing sun still lingered upon the higher peaks, but the gloomy ravines below us, shaggy with forests of larch and dense thickets of trailing pine, were already gathering the shadows and indistinctness of night. At the foot of the mountains stood the first encampment of Koraks.

The rising moon was just throwing into dark, bold relief the shaggy outlines of the peaks on our right, as our dogs plunged into the throat of a dark ravine which led downward to the steppe. The deceptive shadows of night, and the masses of rock which choked up the narrow defile, made the descent extremely dangerous, and it required all the skill of our practiced drivers to avoid accident. Clouds of snow flew from the spiked poles with which they vainly tried to arrest our downward rush. Cries and warning shouts from those in advance, multiplied by the mountain echoes, excited our dogs to still greater speed, until we seemed, as the rocks and trees flew past, to be in the jaws of a falling avalanche, which was carrying us, with breathless rapidity, down the dark canon to certain ruin. Gradually, however, our speed slackened, and we came out into the moonlight, on the hard, wind-packed snow of the open steppe. Half an hour's brisk travel brought us into the supposed vicinity of the Korak encampment; but we saw, as yet, no signs of either reindeer or tents. The disturbed, torn-up condition of the snow usually apprises the traveler of his approach to the yourts of the Koraks, as the reindeer belonging to the tribe range over all the country within a radius of two or three miles, and paw up the snow in search of the moss which constitutes their food. Failing to find any such indications, we were discussing the probability of our having been misdirected, when suddenly our leading dogs pricked up their sharp ears, snuffed eagerly at the wind, and, with short, excited yelps, made off at a dashing gallop toward a low hill which lay almost at right-angles with our previous course. The drivers endeavored in vain to check the speed of the excited dogs; their wolfish instincts were aroused, and all discipline was forgotten as the fresh scent came down upon the wind from the herd of reindeer beyond. A moment brought us to the brow of the hill, and before us, in the clear moonlight, stood the dark somber tents of the Koraks, surrounded by a herd of at least four thousand deer, whose branching antlers appeared like a forest of dry limbs around the yourts. The dogs all gave voice simultaneously, like a pack of fox-hounds in view of the game, and dashed tumultuously down the declivity, regardless of the shouts of their masters and the menacing cries of three or four dark forms which rose suddenly up from the snow between them and the frightened deer. Above the tumult could be heard DODD's voice, hurling imprecations in Russian at his yelping dogs, which, despite his most strenuous efforts, were dragging him and his capsized sledge across the steppe. The vast body of deer wavered a moment, and then broke into a wild stampede, with dogs, drivers and Korak sentinels in full pursuit.

Not desirous of becoming involved in the *mêlée*, I sprang from my sledge, and watched the confused crowd as it swept, with shout, bark, and halloo, across the plain. The whole encampment, which had seemed, in its quiet loneliness, to be deserted, was now startled into instant activity. Dark forms issued suddenly from the tents, and, grasping the long spears which stood upright in the snow by the doorway, joined in the chase, shouting and hurling lassos of walrus-hide at the dogs, with the hope of stopping their pursuit. The clattering of thousands of antlers dashed together in the confusion of flight, the hurried beat of countless hoofs upon the hard snow, the deep hoarse barks of the startled deer, and the unintelligible cries of the Koraks as they tried to rally their panic-stricken herd, created a Pandemonium of discordant sounds, which could be heard far and wide through the still, frosty atmosphere of night. It resembled more a midnight attack of Comanches upon a hostile camp than the peaceful arrival of three or four American travelers, and I listened with astonishment to the wild uproar of alarm which we had unintentionally aroused. The tumult grew fainter and fainter as it swept away into the distance, and the dogs, exhausting the unnatural strength which excitement had temporarily given them, yielded reluctantly to the control of their drivers and turned toward the tents. DODD's dogs, panting with the violence of their exertions, limped sullenly back, casting longing glances occasionally in the direction of the deer, as if they more than half repented the weakness which had led them to abandon the chase.

"Why didn't you stop them?" I inquired of DODD, laughingly. "A driver of your experience ought to have better control of his team than that."

"Stop them!" he exclaimed, with an aggrieved air; "I'd like to see *you* stop them with a rawhide lasso round your neck, and a big Korak hauling like a steam windlass on the other end of it. It's all very well to jump from your 'nart' and cry 'Stop them;' but when the barbarians haul you off the rear end of your sledge, as if you were a wild animal, what course would your sublime wisdom suggest? I believe I've got the mark of the lasso round my neck now, and he felt cautiously about his ears for the impression of a seal-skin thong.—*Putnam's Magazine for January.*"

AFTER ELECTION.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The day's sharp strife is ended now,
Our work is done, God knoweth how!
As on the thronged, unrestful town
The patience of the moon looks down,
I wait to hear, beside the wire,
The voices of its tongues of fire.

Slow, doubtful, faint, they seem at first;
Be strong, my heart, to know the worst!
Hark!—there the Alleghanies spoke;
That sound from lake and prairie broke!
That sunset gun of triumph rent
The silence of a continent!

That signal from Nebraska sprung,
This, from Nevada's mountain tongue!
Is that thy answer, strong and free,
O loyal heart of Tennessee?
What strange, glad voice is that which calls
From Wagner's grave and Sumter's walls?

From Mississippi's fountain head
A sound as of the bison's tread!
There rustled freedom's Charter Oak!
In that wild burst the Ozarks spoke!
Cheer answers cheer from rise to set
Of sun. We have a country yet!

The praise, O God, be thine alone!
Thou givest not for bread a stone;
Thou hast not led us through the night
To blind us with returning light;
Not through the furnace have we passed,
To perish at its mouth at last.

O, night of peace, thy flight restrain!
November's moon, be slow to wane!
Shine on the freedman's cabin floor;
On brows of prayer a blessing pour;
And give, with full assurance blest,
The weary heart of Freedom rest!

—*Atlantic Monthly for January.*

THE INCENDIARY.—Night. A city wrapped in slumber. Now and then the tang-tang of the police club. Sentinel stars in the sky, which for Crime Landers to see, would make them feel that a mysterious watch was over them set. In the city's business heart a tall warehouse. How ghastly the garish marble looks through the gloom. Hark! cautious footsteps that quicken as the tang-tang of the club diminishes its sound. A muffled man stops before the ghastly building. He draws a key. It fits the lock. He enters quickly with half the air of one who belongs there if his errand is good, but who should be stranger if his visit is for ill.

Breathe on the magic mirror and the picture changes. Interior of the warehouse. Somebody stumbling through its gloom. Krah-f-f-f-f. There is a match drawn. And a candle has been lighted. What a face it discloses for a Pre-Raphaelite artist to paint. There are the good impulses of a lifetime, and the bad ones fresh born of despairing pride fighting for mastery in that upper lip. He owner goes into the office. He opens a safe with its own key. He secretes papers in his breast. He looks out one of the books, and opens it. Bankrupt is written on it in dim, shadowy letters. The sight nerves his pride like strong drink. He leaves the safe-door open. He explores the building. The hands that in boyhood built houses from blocks on the happy nursery floor, now fashions in every part guilty piles of combustibles. How the veins lash his temples like whip-cords. How his heart throbs as he bends. How white his face grows as a curious and innocent mouse crosses before him. How his wrist oscillates—'tis like the wrist of a twenty-year old dram-drinker lifting the cordial cup—as he touches the candle here and there, and thither and hither, and dropping it in his flight, noisdlessly escapes by the alley entrance, and reseeks, with night-key, the palatial residence where a few hours before he had gone to sleep, had risen, and now goes to sleep again—with the sky crimsoned, and a thousand men out to the magnetic cry of "Fire, fire!" as the great bells peal over the startled city.

Sleep! Partial sleep will give its repose to the wet sea boy, but it will deny it to the new-crowned Arson King of Crime Land.—"*Our Crime-Land Excursion,*" *in the Galaxy for January.*

PLEASANT BOOKS.—DICKENS we put with HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN and GRIMM. They are kindred somehow in our mind; but DICKENS in this category is represented only by *The Old Curiosity Shop*, and *The Christmas Carol*. We put *David Copperfield*, and *Martin Chuzzlewit*, and *Pickwick* by, for wayside reference, for chamber books sometimes, or garden-reading in the Summer; but *Tiny Tim* and *Little Nell*, real though they be, we introduce to *The Little Tin Soldier, Elsie, The Ugly Duckling, Little Claus and Great Claus*; and that old street lamp and other curiosities of ANDERSEN seem to belong to the *Curiosity Shop*, not so much from affinity of fancy, as because it seems to us DICKENS must understand them himself so thoroughly. We have had our last Christmas book from DICKENS, they say. Oh, these last! Oh, this giving over, this closing of the book, this ringing down the drop scene, this writing Fins! Are there no more Tiny Tims, nor Scrooges, nor Toby Vecks, nor Mrs. Lirripers left in that teeming brain? or is it time to rest? We do not complain, we only regret that the Summer is over, listen more attentively with Toby Veck to the Christmas bells, hug that little figure which we find at Bob Cratchett's fireside closer to our hearts, and breathe more fervently that never-dying prayer, "God bless us everyone."—"*Joseph Halton,*" *in the Gentleman's Magazine.*

RATCATCHERS.—A ratcatcher always appears to me a hardly-used member of society. I cannot recall to my mind a single instance in which I have heard one recommended for his respectability. Now I think this is rather a hard case. His trade, I confess, does not argue much for his cleanliness, and we are told that "cleanliness is next to godliness;" but still I am inclined personally not to regard the "profession" generally as outcasts from the pale of genteel humanity, and—talking of those ratcatchers who assume their calling in the country, not to those who "angle" for rats in the parlours of a city—I must rather say I like them. No one either can help regarding them as necessary, even while maligning them; and many an hour's fun can be had with them when other good game is scarce, though not more difficult phases of *le sport* are not to be obtained. The cleverest ratcatcher it has ever been my fortune to become acquainted with was one, yclept JIM, who hailed from Glasgow, and had large employment in the neighboring counties. He was a little whipper-snapper sort of a body, but undeniably master of one trade, whatever he may have been of others. He was, a few years ago—(he is dead now, "deeply regretted")—in great demand, and his charge was one pound per night. In ordinary places, and in good weather, three nights of his attention were usually sufficient to thin the rats for some months to come. He was generally accompanied—and this I think was the weakest point in his character—by the owner of a rat pit in Glasgow, who lent his assistance gratituously in consideration, at least, for the rats caught, which were, at all events, in most instances, but very slightly injured. My most recent ratcatching friend I know less about. He was a casual acquaintance picked up at my brother's. As to his honesty, I know nothing pro or con. His dirty habits may safely be inferred, as he rejoiced in a few tame rats, which lived about his person, and were intended to show his power over their species. For a consideration in the shape of Her Majesty's image he declared himself willing to teach an jone the art of so civilizing rats as to induce them to run all over you without attempting to bite or escape. As I declined to part with the requisite coin for such a purpose, I cannot impart to your readers the secret, but I presume that it will be no greater loss to them than it was to myself.—*Land and Water.*

A SOUTH AMERICAN TRAGEDY.—The fort of the Holy Ghost, which GABOT had caused to be erected at the mouth of the River Carcarana, was for many years unmolested by the neighboring tribe of the Timbues. They were a quiet, inoffensive people, and their friendship was cultivated by an excellent Governor, DON NUNO DE LARA, whom GABOT left in command on his return to Spain in 1532. A short time after the departure of GABOT, a fearful tragedy was enacted at the fort, of which here follow the chief details. Among the Spanish ladies at Santa Espiritu was a very beautiful woman named LUCIA MIRANDA, wife of SEBASTIAN HUETADO, and whose attractions inflamed the passions of MANGORA, principal cacique of the Timbués. He called his brother SIRIPO into council, with the view of devising some means to get possession of her, and a plan was arranged. This was to be carried out on a certain day, that one of the Spanish Captains, named GARCIA, and the lady's husband, HUETADO, were to go from the fort with fifty soldiers to hunt game and search for provisions in the woods. MANGORA collected 4,000 men, and had them hid in a grove hard by. He then, with thirty of his followers, proceeded to the fortress, offering to Governor LARA a quantity of provisions, and professing the warmest friendship. The Spaniard, not suspecting anything of the treachery that was brewing, and his garrison being hard pushed for food, received his visitors with open arms. The day was spent in festivity—drinking toasts to the God of Friendship, and all "went merry as a marriage bell." But when the Spaniards had fallen asleep, and no doubt neglected a night-watch, MANGORA, who had been on the alert, opened the night of the fort, and, by preconcerted signals, soon had his horde of barbarians inside. A tremendous slaughter commenced, in which a hand-to-hand fight between LARA and MANGORA ended by the death of both. The only survivors of the Spaniards were a few women and children. Among the former was LUCIA. These were taken captives before SIRIPO, the brother and successor of MANGORA, a man of equally base passions. He at once made proposals to LUCIA, with the conditions of granting her life and liberty; but they were of such a nature as to oblige her to reject them with scorn, and prefer death before dishonor. On the succeeding day her husband heard of the sad affair while he was away hunting in the woods, and, being fired with indignation, rushed into the presence of SIRIPO, upbraiding the savage with treachery while demanding the release of his wife. He was, however, without much formality, at once made prisoner, and immediately condemned to death. Although LUCIA could maintain her fortitude where others were doomed to die, and even under personal insult to herself, she now renounced her heroic tone, and fell on her knees before SIRIPO, praying for her husband's life. The tyrant granted a revocation of the sentence, on conditions that HUETADO would give her (LUCIO) to him (SIRIPO)—that HUETADO would give her another wife among the young ladies of the Timbués—and that this last-named selection would be realized without the necessity of any conjugal ceremony. Despite of feeling confident that her dear husband would scout such terms, with the disgust they were sure to present to any manly mind, she availed herself of SIRIPO's suggestion that she would have an interview with HUETADO, and propose to him the terms of their salvation. Yet, as they were mutually sympathizing with tearful love in each other's arms, they were ruthlessly separated by order of the barbarian, and on the instant condemned to death with the most horrible cruelty. She was slowly burned by a fire made out of dried branches, and he, pinioned to a tree right in front of her, was executed by repeated discharges of arrows.—*The Parana, &c., by Consul T. J. Hutchinson.*

A SWIMMING LESSON.—"I can't!" she says, cowering on the brink. "I am afraid!" And she looks down at the green water, and turns from it with the most captivating crouch and shudder. Then she raises her arms—bare from a little above the elbow—in imitation of the action to which she is again and again invited; she lays the palms of her pointed hands together; she looks round for the admiration she knows her pretty attitude gives rise to, and leaps in. A round of clapping greets her when her head comes up again, and she dashes the water from her saucy face; and then we can see she is an expert swimmer. Courage and love of approbation have brought this expertness to her; and courage and love of approbation urge her to hurry up the steps again, when her swimming has brought her near them, that she may repeat her applauded plunge. She crouches and shudders again, standing perched high up there above us; and with her dress of russet color, and its edge of warm red, and her untrammeled limbs, no tinted statue could have more beauty than has her every *pose*. "One! two! three! and away!" cries the matron, imitating her; and she is bravely in again, with a splash and scatter of the water, and a renewal of her very flattering applause.—*Gentleman's Magazine.*

MURDER IN THE OLDEN TIME.—Scarce one of those crimes was perpetrated without numerous confidants and assistants. Thus a whole troop was employed to murder the Duke of Orleans in 1407, and a still larger number were associated to massacre the Duke of Burgundy some twelve years later. A host of nobles, with 160 attendants, assembled to slay RIZZIO. The murder of DARNLEY was confided to half the great men of Scotland. And the whole family of the HAMILTONS was privy to the slaughter of the Regent MURRAY. Certainly PEREZ did not go quite so far as this, but still he went far enough. His major-duomo DIEGO MARTINEZ, his squire RODRIGO DE MORGADO, and that, in those days, inevitable official in the establishment of the ambitious—his astrologer PEDRO DE LA EXA, were his more immediate confidants. With them he discussed the projected murder, and by their aid he selected suitable instruments—not paltry scoundrels these, but bravoes of good birth, (*personas de mas partes,*) and therefore thoroughly worthy of the respectable office of stabbing a gentleman. It was first resolved to take ESCOVEDO off by poison, and for this they had opportunities in plenty, since the intended victim was a frequent guest of PEREZ. Nor was the attempt made in the bungling fashion that has become so common of late. It was undertaken as deliberately and elaborately as any other important business. A professional toxicologist—one of a fraternity then very numerous and largely patronized—was fetched all the way from Arragon: an apothecary the witnesses call him—not exactly such a wretch as figures in "Romeo and Juliet," but a respectable villain. And neither expense nor trouble was spared to give ample scope and verge enough to his skill. Men were dispatched in all directions to seek out noxious herbs and potent drugs. And by the time he took his departure well rewarded, he had provided his employer with matters poisonous, in the shape of liquid and powder, sufficient to destroy half Madrid. Out of this infernal arsenal, a liquid "fit to be given to drink," as the narrator quaintly phrases it, was selected for the first essay. But the page, ANTONIO ENRIQUEZ, who was designated to administer it, was not altogether destitute of conscience. "No," said this good youth indignantly, "I will not be a murderer. I abhor the idea of dipping my hands in blood, and, so help me heaven, will have no hand in poisoning anybody—unless my master gives me the order." And

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gives him the order PEREZ did, accompanied with many promises, sundry politic but very unnecessary poisons, and, what was more to the purpose, "something in hand the whiles." So, the conscientious page went away, "much contented," to set about his part of the business. Accordingly, at dinner that very same day he was remarkably assiduous in waiting on ESCOVEDO, and found means to pour a mistak

not naturally, perhaps, more vain than men, but they have more opportunities and more temptations for the indulgence of vanity than men have. The wealth of the nation has increased at a more rapid rate than its civilization. Our riches have outgrown our culture, and in nothing is this more palpably evident than in the present position of the women of our wealthy middle-class. The growth of commercial wealth, and the transfer of industrial processes, such as spinning, from the parlor to the factory, have enormously multiplied the number of those unfortunate women who have "got no work to do." Idleness, ignorance, want of culture, and of thorough mental training, want of intellectual resource, want of all real discipline, combining with the natural tendencies mentioned above, produce, among other results, that senseless worship of the fashions which is sanctioned by the selfish apathy or cynical indifference of men, and is perpetually stimulated by the arts of the decorator and clothesmonger. The evil is really getting great, both from an artistic and an economical point of view. Artistically, the blind adoption by all women, short and tall, dark and fair, lean and stout, plain and handsome, of one momentarily prevalent fashion, and consequent lack of individuality, and of the study of the becoming in dress and ornamentation, are much to be deplored. And, economically, the extravagance and useless waste which this kaleidoscopic system of dressing occasions is a gigantic evil, destroying not only taste, but sobriety and decorum, and in many instances even virtue.—*Saturday Review.*

PAINTING AT NOONTIDE.

"What? wearied with half a life?"—*Keble.*
"The end crowns all!"—*Shakespeare.*

Oh, heart, my heart, why flags thy force
Thus in the middle of my course,
Midway between the sea and source?

The stream that stagnates in its bed
Turns no man's mill. As well be dead
As numb and rigid. Overhead

Stands earth's bright overseer, the sun:
"Your work, your work! It is not done.
The night shall take my place anon:

Put out your light, and bid you come
To rest within the idle tomb,—
To sluggards still a house of gloom!"

Morn hears the harvest songs. 'Tis eve's
To see when, mute, the reaper heaves
Into the wains the bursting sheaves.

The fields are to the harvest white,—
The laborers only scant;—the blight
May fall ere all be garnered right.

The sickle plies thy lonely lord:
And canst thou hear his loyal word,
Nor every pulse anew be stirred?

"My meat and drink it is, to do
My Father's will; but this I rue,
His husbandmen—behold, how few!"

Who bear the burden and the heat,
If not the throe and bloody sweat,
And, at his side, in patience eat

Of his hard bread, and share his cup
Below, they shall be summoned up
Beside him in his joy to sup.
—*Putnam's Magazine for January.*

THE REVIVAL OF HAIR POWDER.—Fashion, having only a limited number of follies wherewith to indulge her illimitable love of caprice, is obliged to return every now and then to the discarded whimsies of an earlier date. The crinoline of a few years back was a revival of the hoops which fenced about the female figure in the days of the First, Second and Third GEORGES. The narrow skirts and high waists of the present moment are a reproduction of the modes prevalent in the time of the Regency. In once more wearing high-heeled boots, the ladies of 1868 are imitating the customs of their ancestresses of the reign of ELIZABETH; and in their habit of dragging their hair upwards from the roots, and away from the face, which it was intended by nature to shade and soften, they are following a method highly favored in the last century. The latest plagiarism on the past, which the present has adopted, in despair of striking out anything new in the important matter of female adornment, consists in the reintroduction of hair powder. Some ladies have been seen at the opera with heads artificially whitened; and, being new to the existing generation, the absurdity is likely to spread. It may seem a strange thing that youth should take so much pains to imitate one of the most distinctive signs of age; but frivolity in search of a sensation will do almost anything. Luxury has ere now tried to emulate the enforced simplicity of humble folk, and the profligate have trifled with glittering travesties of religious symbols. In these, as in other matters, extremes meet, and a novel impression is derived from the mere attempt to look like something else. Age dyes its hair to resemble youth; youth powders it to acquire the similitude of age. The former process, arising out of a more understandable vanity, has existed at all times; the latter is a fancy that comes and goes with the mutations of taste. The eighteenth century wig and hair powder obviously sought to set aside nature by the substitution of something monstrously and starkly unreal. A lady with her hair built up like a tower, and the whole structure whitened with fine dust, was simply a barbaric object, whom the tattooed beauties of the South Sea Islands might have claimed as a sister. She was neither honestly old nor honestly young, and in some respects she was very repellant. The enormous pyramid of inverted hair, which in the early years of GEORGE the Third's reign was considered indispensable by ladies of fashion, was filled out in the centre with wool, tow or hemp, which was requisite to give solidity to the mass, and to form a basis for the feathers, flowers and ribbons wherewith the whole was ornamented. The exterior was thickly powdered, and furthermore dressed with an immense amount of pomatum, clouted cream (if we can believe a contemporary account,) and various scents. The trouble of arranging these strange edifices was so great, that they were generally untouched for weeks together, except by the external application of fresh scents and grease. It requires no great effort of the imagination to conceive the effect of this day-by-day accumulation of corrupting animal matter, nor to guess what must have been the disclosures attending that periodical "opening" or "repairing" of the head (as it was elegantly called) which it was the hairdresser's duty to perform. The satirical writers of the time are very plain-spoken on this subject, and if any of our readers are curious as to the details, they may find some few particulars shadowed forth in the entertaining pages of Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT'S *Caricature History of the Georges.* Nothing but that singular devotion to fashion which almost equals religious zeal in its fervor and intensity could have reconciled either sex to this vile method of treating the female head. Monstrous as it was, the fashion continued for many years, and, like other frivolities, was made to yield a profit to the revenue. Hair powder is derived from starch, which, in its commoner form, is the residuum of wheat that has been steeped in water; but the finer kind of starch is made direct from wheaten flour itself. It used to be alleged that the price of bread was materially increased by this extravagant and preposterous use of grain; and the fact will not appear impossible if we state that up to the early part of the present century, when the foolish custom was going out, the gentry used to order their hair-powder of the perfumers by the quarter of a hundred weight at a time. Either to check this waste of an essential commodity, or to bring in a certain sum of money every year to the exchequer, a considerable duty was laid on starch, whether used as hair-powder or in any other way; but the imposition does not seem to have had any effect in putting a stop to the fashion. It required the general convulsion of Europe, at the rising of the French democracy, to bring us back to the ways of nature and cleanliness. For the last generation or two the use of hair-powder has been confined to footmen; but it seems we are now threatened with its revival in the highest circles. If there be really any serious intention of signalizing the coming season by a return to the nastiest and stupidest of fashions, we beg of those who have the ordering of such things to examine a little for themselves into the characteristics of the mode they are going to patronise, and into the health and self-respect of such as are likely to become its victims.—*London Daily News.*

AN OLD CHASUBLE.—There is something touching in the following anecdote apart from its historical interest. An aged ecclesiastic presented himself at the cathedral in Avignon, and inquired if they still had an old black chasuble which he described with great minuteness. The official answered in the affirmative, and, after some hesitation, he allowed his questioner to take it in his hands and examine it. The examination was not of long duration; he pressed it to his lips with reverence. Curious to learn what associations there were connected with the old, worn chasuble to kindle so much emotion, the man in charge asked the venerable old priest what he knew concerning it: whereupon the priest said it had once belonged to him, and was made from the last robe worn by MARIE ANTOINETTE. He supported his assertion with so many proofs that the authorities of the cathedral were convinced, and the old chasuble, we are told, is now carefully put away along with the other treasures.—*Once a Week.*

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

—*The Periodic Law.* By Rev. GEORGE A. LEAKIN, A. M. (New-York: POTT & AMORY.) This little book on the law of periodicity is very suggestive, and may be taken as a commentary on that sentiment of ALEXANDER POPE, or probably of Lord BOLINGBROKE, who is said to have suggested a good deal of the argument of the *Essay on Man*—

All art is nature, but unknown to thee;
All chance, direction which thou canst not see.

A truth which may be called a truism; for there are laws of movement in the world of nature concerning which we can only guess and compare. When that is said, what more is to be said? We all recognize the periodicities of the seasons, the monsoons, the siroccos, birazones, tides, overflows of rivers, &c. There are also periodicities of disease, famine, plague; but these last we are enabled, in a certain degree, to cope with and control, by improving the physical agencies and conditions of life. In all these the action of chance seems greatly lessened. Science gives a greater certainty of things than the world had in the former ages; and a more extended knowledge of the great laws of the universe and of our own nature will lessen the number of what are called chances. That question of "periodicity" is a very old one in the world. The earlier generations of men believed in many happy returns, and the rolling round of Saturnian days, and the avatars of demigods and heroes—their notions being suggested or countenanced by the movement of the seasons and the perpetuation of all living things. They thought that things which had once been would very probably be again, and so put their trust in periods and cycles of time, and confided in weird sisters and brothers, augurs, prophets and such like. Mr. LEAKIN does not seem to lean to the auguries and prophecies. But he believes in times and numbers—especially odd numbers—*numero deus impare gaudet*—implying that "there's luck in odd numbers;" and dwells upon "the twelve cycles of 40 years each, six of 450, four of 430, and three of 1,000, viz: 1,000 years from the Abrahamic Covenant to Solomon; 1,000 from the Exodus of Israel to the destruction of the Temple, and 1,000 from the Dedication to the Birth of Christ." He also points out the number of the Beast as 666, and that of Jesus as 888; and finds a divinity in the number seven, which the Jewish Rabbins honored with such a particular veneration, without pointing out, as they were in fairness bound to do, that the most ancient word for *seven* was also the somewhat unrecognized and indeed ethnic word for *creation* or *genesis.* Our author also quotes a curious passage from LATROBE'S *Rambles in North America*, concerning the *cicada septendecim*, a sort of locust which appeared in Canada in May, 1749, the same sort of insect appearing there again in the same month at intervals of seventeen years. On the 24th of May, 1835, they appeared in Philadelphia and its environs. In 1851 our author saw them in Baltimore, and saw them again in that city in the June of this year. If this statement of periodicity be correctly made, the fact is a most extraordinary one, and those short-lived and long-legged cicadas, locusts or grasshoppers must be endowed with as fine a sense of "time, times and a half," as any of the Jerusalem Rabbins or the Christian interpreters who came after them.

—*Memorials of Those who Suffered for the Catholic Faith in Ireland.* By MYLES O'REILLY, B. A. LL. D. (New-York Catholic Publication Society.)—This is truly a severe and ghastly sort of book for the Christmas holidays—being a record of the hangings, quarterings and disembowelings undergone, in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, by the unfortunate Catholic bishops and priests who dared to say mass for their flocks and perform the other necessary duties of a Christian society in Ireland. It is a dreary retrospect—the counterpart of those which may be found in the histories of all Christian countries; and the Catholic clergy of the Island of Saints, when they came in contact with the reformers of England, had good reason to wish they had met the ancient pagans of the island instead of such Christians, for, as the work before us remarks, the first missionaries, on their arrival in Ireland, found a rather good-natured reception from the professors of the oldest religion of all, and never lost one of their number by any martyrdom. In that respect, the Christians of succeeding times, as has been shown in a hundred martyrologies, and of all countries acted worse than the pagans, and as may be further learned from the present. Apart from the ecclesiastical interest of the book, Dr. O'REILLY has given a curious amount of biographical detail, which to a mere secular reader relieves the melancholy tenor of the whole, and affords many intimate glimpses of the life and manners of the men of by-gone generations in Ireland. It is to be hoped that Mr. GLADSTONE'S present Irish policy will do something to abolish or soften that spirit of religious intolerance and antipathy which, in every country of the world, has been one of the worst and deadliest obstacles in the way of human happiness and civilization.

—*The Little Gypsy.* By ELIE SAUVAGE. (Boston: ROBERTS BROTHERS.) *The Little Gypsy* is a pretty translation from the French of ELIE SAUVAGE, with a pretty little dancing girl, "Biondina," who is carried away from her parents by a band of Gypsies. "Petrolino" the musician, "Zara" the sorceress, "Ribba" the renegade, and a number of other picturesque vagabonds, who may at the same time be said to carry off the innocent young readers along with her, through forests and villages and far-distant places, where they meet with the most startling adventures and have to run for their lives from wolves! "Biondina" or "Mina" is taken from the Gypsies at last by benevolent strangers and taught music, till she becomes a great performer like St. Cecelia, and knows both fugue and counterpoint as well as the late Maestro ROSSINI himself. In the end she is restored to her disconsolate parents in a surprising and beautiful manner and makes their old age supremely happy. The little book is full of illustrations, and makes a very absorbing little romance for the youngsters.

—*Comic Almanacs.* Among the minor publications bearing the imprints of French publishers, the myriad of almanacs sent forth toward the holidays of every year are really deserving of notice. Half a dozen out of (perhaps) half a hundred, have just come to hand through M. HENRI SAMPERS, of this City, and some of them are positively notable, among light productions, for the reading matter and the illustrations they contain, and for the moderate price at which they are issued. First in merit of those lying before us is the *Almanach Comique*, now in the twenty-eighth year of its existence. It is a pamphlet of 180 pages, and it is sold, in Paris, for ten sous. Yet, the authors that contribute to it are known journalists, and the caricaturists are the leading comicalists of France. After the usual statistical information, we have a pictorial calendar by no less a wit than GERVIN, and, besides, sketches of the twelve months by the great CHAM. The "Comedy of Success" is recounted by LOUIS LEROY. PIERRE VERON follows him, and deals with Parisian fancies. After these writers come MOLINET, ED. VILLIERS, HENRY MONNIER, JULES NORIAVE, and A. BRESDON, and each of them adds a laughable anecdote to the collection. Of an equally droll character is the *Almanach du Charivari*, less substantial in point of literary food but richer in engravings, bearing the signatures of the inexhaustible couple, CHAM and GREVIN. The *Almanach du Magasin Pittoresque* is more instructive than its less pretentious contemporaries, and of course a good deal heavier, but it is interesting nevertheless. A glance at the catalogue of the almanacs shows that even the little folks have not been overlooked in the issue of summaries of the twelvemonth past and of predictions for the twelvemonth coming. A *Polichinelle Almanach* reintroduces the familiar face between the familiar humps, and seventy odd pages of bright pictures and syllabled stories are put together to gladden the tiny French boy at an outlay of *cinquante centimes.* We really need such publications as these almanacs. For lack of them, the perusal of any of those for the sale of which Mr. SAMPERS is the agent, will supply a few hours' pleasant entertainment.

—*Home Stories.* By MRS. ALICE B. HAVEN. (New-York: APPLETON & Co.) Eight attractive stories told in Cousin Alice's easy, natural manner. "MRS. HAVEN," says a writer quoted in the preface, "is one of the best writers of what may be termed the sensible school. She delineates with ease and skill the characters of every-day life, and invests them with the charms that only fidelity to nature can impart."

—*Gleanings Among the Sheaves.* By Rev. C. H. SPURGEON. (New-York: SHELDON & Co.) To those who love the points and felicities of religious interpretation, and the simple earnestness of evangelical sentiment, this gilt-edged and elegant little book will be especially welcome. Clergymen who are under the necessity of delivering sermons, may find a number of happy suggestions in it, and we have no doubt that these miniature sermons—about one to each page—will be read with much real consolation by a great many. With Mr. SPURGEON'S famous name, they bring the strongest recommendation in the world.

—*The Farleyes of Furleye; or, Faithful and True.* By Rev. THOMAS J. POTTER. (Boston: PATRICK DONAHOE.) Catholic readers will find much that is interesting in this touching story. It is, of course, thoroughly Roman Catholic in its teachings, and contains many things to which Protestants would object.

—*Verses on Various Occasions.* By NEWMAN. (Boston: PATRICK DONAHOE.) Occasional verses rarely bear republication, and these are no exception to the rule. They are smooth in rhythm and unexceptionable in sentiment, and through most of them runs a religious vein of thought.

—*Popular Commentary on the Gospel According to Luke.* By ALFRED NEVIN, D.D. (Philadelphia: WILLIAM FLINT.) Commentaries on the Bible generally overlay the text with a mass of commonplace moral reflection, which to readers of ordinary comprehension is tedious and useless, and Dr. NEVIN'S work is no exception to the rule. All that is valuable in his commentary, in the way of historical information, is accessible in other works, and the reader will turn the pages in vain for an original remark or illustration.

—*Jack the Conqueror: Or, Difficulties Overcome.* By C. E. BOWEN; author of *Dick and His Donkey.* (New-York; D. APPLETON & Co.) This is the story of a poor English lad who raised himself by his own exertions from poverty to a handsome competence. It is well told, and is illustrated with many beautiful wood cuts.

—*Little Lou's Sayings and Doings.* By the author of *Little Susie's Six Birthdays*, &c., with eight illustrations by MARY L. STONE. (New-York: HURD & HOUGHTON.) Little readers will find few more attractive books than this for the Christmas holidays. It is written in a simple, pleasant style, and the illustrations are admirably suited to the text.

—*Chaucer's Poems.* (New-York: D. APPLETON & Co.) This is a very neat edition of the *Canterbury Tales*, with the notes and glossary of THOMAS TURWHITT, condensed and arranged under the text. It belongs to APPLETON'S "Globe" edition of the English poets.

—*Roby and Poly.* By SARAH E. CHESTER. (New-York: ANSON D. F. RANDOLPH & Co.) This is a little series in three volumes, for very young children. It is printed in large clear type, as children's books always should be, and is prettily illustrated.

—*Beginner's French Reader.* Arranged by L. PILODET. (New-York: LEYPOLDT & HOLT.) This is a compilation of short and easy pieces in prose and verse, suitable for young beginners in French, with a complete vocabulary. It is a very well arranged little book, and will be found useful in schools.

—*Newton Forster; or, The Merchant Service.* By Capt. MARRYATT. (New-York: D. APPLETON & Co.) A reprint, in cheap form, of one of MARRYATT'S once popular sea novels.

—*The Christmas Font.* By Mrs. MARY J. HOLMES. (New-York: G. W. CARLETON.) This is a very pretty little book for young folks, neatly illustrated and printed in good clear type.

—*Booth's Series of Acting Plays.* Under this title Messrs. HURD & HOUGHTON (New-York) publish *Richard III.* and *Macbeth*, adapted from the text of the Cambridge edition, with introductory remarks, glossary, notes, &c. The series will include all of SHAKESPEARE'S plays as produced on the stage by EDWIN BOOTH.

—*Tales of a Grandfather.* By WALTER SCOTT. W. W. SWAYNE (New-York and Brooklyn) publishes a cheap edition of these popular stories.

—*The Life and Letters of Halleck*, by JAMES GRANT WILSON, illustrated with a steel engraving from INMAN'S portrait, views of the poet's residence, &c.

—*Dryden's Poems.* The Globe edition of the poetical works of the great English satirist, published by D. APPLETON & Co.

Trouble in a St. Louis Insurance Company—Application for an Injunction.

From the St Louis Republican, Dec. 9.

A suit for an injunction has been commenced in the Circuit Court, in which the plaintiffs are the International Mutual Live Stock Insurance Company, and the defendants FREDERICK LONG, DIEBOLD WOTTIE, GOTTLEIB EYERMAN, V. SCHINDER and JACOB STRAUSHEIMER.

The petition sets forth that the plaintiffs were incorporated a company on the 27th of April, 1868, and thereupon proceeded to the election of its officers and directors. That on the 5th of November they were the owners of certain books of account, consisting of a cash book, policy register, two ledgers, asset book, record book, loss and assessment book, book of by-laws and proceedings, and a large number of premium notes payable to the plaintiff, viz.: 200 of the value of $50,000. These books contained all and the only entries of business of the corporation, and these premium notes were the assets and stock of the Company, upon the faith of which policies were issued and premiums paid. The petitioners go on to state that while their business was being so carried on by its legal officers, an informal and illegal meeting of the defendants named, and a few other persons unknown to the plaintiff, assembled in St. Louis on about the 4th day of November last, and the meeting then held a pretended election of officers of the corporation, at which they chose the defendants as a Board of Directors, there being no vacancy in these offices. The plaintiffs state the defendants unlawfully assumed to act as directors of the Company, and proceeded to elect the defendant, FREDERICK LONG, the pretended President, and GOTTLEIB EYERMAN, the pretended Secretary of the Company.

On the 5th of November last the defendants went to the office of the Company, and, it is claimed, unlawfully took therefrom, without the knowledge or consent of the plaintiffs or its officers, the books and notes of the Company, and they refuse to give them up. It is alleged that all the defendants conspired together to take this property, and the plaintiffs believe that they intend to convert the same to their own use and to collect the money on said notes and emulate and destroy the same; that these books and notes are necessary to carry on the business of said Company and to preserve its solvency and the interests of the assured. The petition further sets forth that the defendants are still assuming to act as directors of the Company, and are attempting to settle and collect the claims and debts due to the plaintiffs, to confess judgments and dispose suits at law to which the plaintiff is a party. The petitioners pray that the defendants be restrained by injunction from disposing of, collecting, or destroying the books, notes, or papers of the Company, and collecting any debts or claims due it, or from interfering in any legal proceedings in which the plaintiffs are a party. They also pray that the defendants may be compelled to return the books and notes to them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Specie Payments.

No. 11 WALL-STREET, Friday, Dec. 4, 1868.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is to be regretted that you gentlemen of the Press deem the discussion of this question so necessary. I, for one, do not hear of any particular complaint, in regard to the currency, among business people, either merchants, mechanics or laborers. I am the President of two manufacturing companies of considerable importance, and find no trouble in buying all I want with the regular Government or bank paper. If I wish to reduce the prices to gold standard I have but to deduct the thirty-five or forty per cent., or the market rate of the day. And if a party wishes to buy our manufactures at gold value it is the simplest thing in the world to enable him to do it. The grand question lies, as I take it, just in this, viz.: to control the further issue of paper money, by forbidding any further expansion until the business of the country shall require the whole of it to effect the exchange of the productions of one part of the country for another, or the trade of individuals.

As paper money becomes scarce, it will, of course, become dearer. As there is not now, and never has been, and I think it is perfectly safe to say there will not be for many generations to come, enough gold to carry on the ordinary business of the country, the parity in the value of paper and gold can be reached by the natural course of trade if the further issue of paper is prohibited.

One suggestion of the TIMES strikes me as of great importance, and that is for Congress to legalize contracts in gold. If I can buy a farm for wheat, corn, iron, copper, &c., for future delivery, why not gold?

You quote the *Tribune* as saying, all that is required for the resumption of specie payments, is for the Government to resume. Just now that is the cry of the clamorers for more greenbacks, who complained to his friend of his high rent, and wished he owned his own house. His friend suggested that he had better build one. How can I without the means? Well, I know but one way to get a house, and that is to build it. Suppose the *Tribune's* plan was adopted; the result, I feel confident, would be precisely this: In less than fifteen minutes after the Treasury doors were opened on the morning of the order, there would be not less than four hundred millions of greenbacks there, and every possible scrap of gold would be drained out of the vaults; and note further: in less than twenty-four hours every ounce would be in the hold of a vessel or vessels, and inside of ten days thereafter be in Europe. What is the use of talking about the resumption of specie payment s? Gentlemen of the Press, do let tinkering with the currency alone. We in business are, for the most part, getting along very comfortably as we are, and we look to the resumption of specie payments being brought about by the natural course of trade.

JOSEPH P. PIRSSON.

A Sinking Fund.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The *Tribune* of Dec. 8, commenting on my communication to you of Nov. 30, says:

"The trouble is that a sinking fund amounts to nothing unless you have a surplus income over current outgo."

It is immaterial how a sinking fund be formed originally—though of course it is better to have a surplus income to create it.

That surplus can be created by taxation if existing taxation be not sufficient. But the fact is, that deriving money of our opinions on finance from British precedents we have no confidence in a sinking fund.

Mr. PITT'S sinking fund would, if it had not been violated, have paid off the English debt in 1846. It was not systematically disregarded till 1813. It had, according to ALISON (chapter 41) at that time, paid 288,231,000 of pounds sterling of the national debts. But at that time Great Britain was in the crisis of the dark struggle with NAPOLEON. Lord GRENVILLE, who in 1786 was an advocate of the sinking fund, now denounced it as a juggle. But juggle though it was called, if it had been respected it would have (owing to the wonderful power of accumulation by compound in erest) paid the British debt more than twenty years ago. Mr. PITT'S sinking fund became extinguished in 1829. Since which, though attempts to re-establish it have been made, they have produced no important results.

Ingenious British writers on finance have proposed various plans by which to create a sinking fund and place it out of the reach of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to use on any pressing emergency—but without success. Utter scepticism of any useful purpose to be accomplished by a sinking fund seems to have taken possession of the minds of British statesmen.

But in this country we can protect a sinking fund by constitutional provision, which will effectually guard it from encroachment. Had it not been for the unfortunate LAW, the sinking fund of Mr. PITT would have been a triumphant success.

Why should we (in the language of ALISON) not apply the "wonderful powers of a sinking fund, accumulating by compound interest—the vast lever of geometrical progression," to the payment of our national debt?

S. J. B.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 7, 1868.

The Postal Telegraph.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

We doubt the propriety of a popular Government like ours assuming the charge either of the telegraphic or railroad lines of the country, but as there appears to be a growing disposition in that direction, we propose that a trial should be made before compromising the Government to the adoption of any system.

We would suggest that it should first be ascertained what the probable amount of telegraphic communication of the country would be under a system of reduced charges, and then let the contract for conveying messages, for a period of four years, to the lowest responsible bidder, the Government reserving the right to annul the contract at any time by paying the absolute damages.

By this plan the telegraphic operators would not be officers of the Government, as postmasters are, but they would be the agents of the company which takes the contract, and, of course, responsible alone to the company. By the end of four years the country could form a definite opinion as to how the system would work.

P. T.

Hon. J. W. Leftwich and the Eighth Tennessee Congressional District.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

There has been so much misunderstanding and misrepresentation in regard to the election in this district, (which embraces the City of Memphis,) that it is due to the public that the facts should be given as briefly as possible. Under the laws of Tennessee, adopted at the time of her reconstruction, the greater part of the rebels were disfranchised, and consequently there could not be there any defiantly Rebel ticket, or which amounts to much the same thing in the South, any distinctly Democratic ticket.

As a matter of fact there were three candidates for Congress running in that district, viz.: Mr. NUNN, the sitting member, a regular Republican nomination; Mr. SMITH, Radical and Independent, and Dr. LEFTWICH, Conservative.

It was and is well understood that all the candidates supported GRANT and COLFAX.

Mr. NUNN had been a fair representative, but from some cause had failed to win the full confidence of his constituents.

Mr. SMITH had never been in Congress, and his highest qualification seemed to be his ability to influence colored votes.

Dr. LEFTWICH was an active Union man throughout the war, at a time "when it cost to be a Union man," was well known as a strictly upright, honest, fearless man, highly respected wherever he was known for his integrity, had been President for some years of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, and was elected to the Thirty-ninth Congress, where he served with distinguished ability and fidelity. He had been an Old Line Whig, but never a Democrat; and in 1866 had been like many others induced to support Mr. JOHNSON in the National Union Convention which met at Philadelphia.

The contest in the election was between him and Mr. SMITH, Mr. NUNN polling so few votes as to be practically out of the canvass. The returns elected Dr. LEFTWICH by nearly a thousand majority, and the canvassers so declared. Mr. SMITH proposes to contest the election on the alleged ground of frauds or irregularities in the returns from some of the polling places, and professes to have discovered a precinct where he says 700 negroes voted for him, while only eighty-six votes were returned. As a thoroughgoing Republican, the writer believes in impartial suffrage, and would not withhold the ballot from any hand, white or black, which is qualified to exercise it; but he has lived at the South, and knows very well the influence which a shrewd and adroit manager can exert over the ignorant and simple-minded blacks. If such a man, who has their confidence tells them that they have or had the right to vote at a dozen different polls, or without reference to their residence, they will believe him implicitly, and if they offered their votes at a poll where they were not entitled to vote, and they were rejected, they will, of course, believe that they have been wronged. That this, or something like it, is the true explanation of the alleged irregularity, is probable; for no one who knows Dr. LEFTWICH will believe him capable of attempting to secure his election by fraud. If he is not fairly and honestly chosen the Representative of the Eighth Tennessee District in the Forty-first Congress, let him be unseated; but it should be on stronger evidence than the testimony extorted from the poor blacks by an interested party.

That Dr. LEFTWICH would be the more capable Representative of the two, and more heartily in accord with the Government in all its great measures, is not a matter of doubt; but if he has not a rightful claim to his seat, he should lose it, let the consequences be what they may. If he has, let him not be ousted by any fraud of his opponent.

A SOUTHERNER-OUT REPUBLICAN.

Gen. Grant and the Jews.

No. 26 PARK-PLACE, NEW-YORK, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1868.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In the course of the recent Presidential contest, a sense of duty impelled me to respond at some length in answer to a letter of ADOLPH MOSES, Esq., of Quincy, Ill., recalling his previous declarations of animosity to, and signifying his intention to vote for, Gen. GRANT, and which letter was published in the columns of your estimable journal.

It has been represented to me that my letter has been construed so far to the injury of Mr. MOSES, (for whom personally at the time, and at this moment, I entertain none but the warmest sentiments of esteem,) as to convey the idea that he had "been bought for money," and that it was this unhallowed motive which had effected his change of sentiment.

I take this, the first occasion when a knowledge of such interpretation has been brought to my notice, to utterly disclaim having had any such intention; and to say that I have ever held Mr. MOSES in too high esteem to deem for one moment that he would be guilty of such mercenary end.

I crave the liberty likewise of putting on record my entire satisfaction with the recently published statements of Gen. GRANT, made in his letter to Hon. L. N. MORRIS, evoked by one addressed to him by Mr. MOSES, respecting his famous Order No. 11.

That letter exonerates Gen. GRANT from the imputation of prejudice and intolerance against the Jews, so long believed to be one of his characteristics.

No man rejoices more than I do at this, and though I did not vote for, yet now that he is the Chief Magistrate elect of our country, no American, be he Jew or Gentile, will uphold and defend his honor more than

Very truly, your obedient servant,

B. F. PEIXOTTO.

The Farmers' Clubs vs. Total Abstinence.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

There is a large and increasing class of people in our City, comprising many able scholars and estimable citizens; who are committed to the belief that the use of alcohol as a beverage is inconsistent with the duty one owes to his fellows, and prejudicial to the best interests of the commonwealth. In behalf of these, I wish to protest against the action of the Farmers' Club, which meets every Tuesday at Cooper Institute, avowedly to consult the interests of American farmers by discussing the productions, implements and processes of agriculture, and the application of science and inventive art to the same.

On two occasions during my attendance they have devoted quite a portion of their time to discussing the quality and cheapness of domestic wines, and on Tuesday last the questionable spectacle was witnessed of the learned and accomplished presiding officer of that association, distributing a dozen of *American* champagne among a committee of twelve appointed to *test* it, and accompanying the distribution with amusing reminiscences of occasions when he had tested the "real article" with the respective committeemen.

What progress can we expect for the cause of total abstinence when these distinguished savans, whose doings the rural public regard as little less than oracular, thus throw about the seductive avenues to dram-drinking the protecting ægis of their respectable erudition? Would it not be well that a club occupying the prominence which this association does, could refrain from adding the weight of their influence to the scale of that evil indulgence which unmans manhood, dethrones reason, populates prisons and gorges the scaffold with its bloody prey?

Very respectfully, JOHN A. TAYLOR.

LOUISIANA.

Gen. Rousseau's Report—Letter from Mr. Packard, President of the Republican State Central Committee.

From the New-Orleans Republican.

NEW-ORLEANS, LA., Dec. 5, 1868.

To the Public:

The report of Major-Gen. ROUSSEAU to Gen. GRANT, on the disturbances in this State, contains so many evident untruths, that justice to the Republican Party requires that it should receive immediate notice. The Republican State Central Committee, which meets on the 14th inst., and the Republican State Convention, which will probably convene shortly thereafter, will doubtless make a more extended criticism and decided condemnation of its incorrect conclusions and false statements, than I am now called upon to do. It is sufficient for the present to correct a few of the more prominent misstatements.

Major-Gen. ROUSSEAU says:

"Until the receipt of reinforcements from Gen. GILLEM the entire number of troops at my disposal in and around the City of New-Orleans was only 463 men. After the receipt of the reinforcements from Mississippi I had but 550 men available for service in the city."

It is a matter of public notoriety that previous to and during the disturbances in this city the regiment of Major-Gen. MOWEN was lying at Ship Island, within twelve hours' travel from New-Orleans, and that Gen. MOWEN and the Republicans of this city were anxious to have it immediately ordered here. Gen. ROUSSEAU refused to issue the order, on the pretence that because it was a colored regiment its presence would exasperate the people. The implication that the Police force consisted only of "243 negroes and 130 white men, to take charge of the City of New-Orleans," is also notoriously untrue, for at the time referred to, viz., the 26 h of October, there were actually 358 white and 178 colored policemen on duty. The Board of Metropolitan Police will soon speak for itself in a report which will not add to the General's reputation.

The following statement is also untrue:

"The colored clubs habitually drilled; the white clubs did not, because with the majority of them drill was unnecessary."

The white clubs did generally drill, while the colored clubs did not, because they were without arms, their leading colored men being generally Ex-United States soldiers, and having been disarmed by "Democratic citizens" under the administration of Major-Gen. ROUSSEAU, of the United States Army.

And so is the statement that the General's course was or is approved by the six Republican gentlemen named among the "general approvals." One of those gentlemen wrote a proposition which was a resolution, strongly censuring the General's course, which was adopted by the Republican State Campaign Committee, and telegraphed to the Northern Press. The plain truth is, that the General's course during the late riots is strongly condemned by 999 in every 1,000 of the Republicans of Louisiana, although a very few may hesitate about freely expressing their opinions on the subject from motives of personal interest or policy.

The General says:

"To watch and control as far as possible both sides and to preserve the public peace without influencing in any way the result of the election, was a task of no little difficulty and danger."

He would have exhibited more "freedom from political bias" and acted more as "became an officer of the United States Army" if he had approved or desired that Democrats as well as Republicans should abstain from voting, or if he had sustained the assailed as much as the assailing party, or if he had cared and talked less about the "difficulties and dangers" surrounding himself and his command.

The General's political bias is illustrated by the fact that he allowed the assailed party to be generally disarmed by their assailants throughout the State, as in the parish of St. Bernard, (to which he refers,) where colored men killed but one white man and the whites killed more than thirty blacks, and where the blacks were disarmed by the whites in the presence of United States soldiers, and left to the mercy of their excited and armed opponents. In some of the other parishes this condition of things may have occurred because he had not the power to prevent it, but I have yet to learn that he disapproved of it, or tried in any way to prevent it. Let it be observed that the General nowhere and in no instance in his report gives the number of Republicans killed in St. Bernard or elsewhere. Why is this, if he is so impartial?

Gen. ROUSSEAU says: "The disturbed condition of the public mind was brought about by no action of mine." Perhaps not; but it might have been prevented by prompt and proper action on his part. He evidently did not find it necessary to make a friendly visit to Republican clubs to advise them to preserve the peace, although he did make "personal request to some of the clubs. (Democratic,) whose names had been publicly associated with acts of violence, that they should aid in preserving, instead of assisting in violating, the peace of the city."

Nevertheless, while the General has no word of rebuke for those whom his own report shows were the guilty parties, he makes a gratuitous attack on the Republican Party and what he styles the "indiscreet and unwarrantable course pursued by other and unworthy members," apparently alluding to those Republicans who differed with him and with some of the gentlemen he has named about the propriety of advising Republicans not to vote.

The report concludes with the surprising statements:

"It is but just to say that the great body of the people of New-Orleans are law-abiding and entirely friendly to the Government of the United States."

"Officers of the army generally, and my staff especially, always found their uniform ample protection against either violence or the slightest disrespect, and a simple request from them was sufficient to disperse large and excited crowds of people."

Indeed! Then it is very pertinent to ask how the City of New-Orleans was for four days and nights in a state of anarchy, and under the control of armed Democratic mobs? Why were Republican residences and club-rooms sacked by these same mobs, and Republicans killed with impunity in the public streets? Why were these proceedings and riots sustained by the whole Democratic Press of this city? And last, but not least, where were Gen. ROUSSEAU and his staff officers during all of this time?

I hold it self-evident that if Gen. ROUSSEAU had been "free from political bias," and had promptly ordered Gen. MOWEN and his regiment to this city, and had issued a proper order and "notice," (not "after quiet was restored,") at the beginning of the troubles, our city would have escaped this deep disgrace.

S. B. PACKARD,
President State Central Committee, Republican Party of Louisiana.

THE CENTRAL DIOCESE.

Rev. Dr. Littlejohn's Letter Declining the Episcopate of Central New-York.

The following is a copy of the letter of Rev. Dr. LITTLEJOHN, of Brooklyn, declining the Episcopate of Central New York:

BROOKLYN, Nov. 28, 1868.

Dear Bishop and Brethren of the Committee:

After the most serious and prayerful consideration, I have determined that it is my duty to decline the Episcopate of the Diocese of Central New-York to which I was elected by the Diocesan Convention assembled at Utica on the 11th inst.

This conclusion has been reached only after much pain and difficulty. I have conscientiously endeavored to set aside all private interests and preferences, and to be governed by considerations of which the whole Church will approve. I have been influenced to some extent by what has already appeared in various ways to be the desire and judgment of the Church, but much more by the direct counsel and advice of Right Rev. fathers and venerable presbyters and laymen whose character, position and services not only entitled their opinion to profound respect from myself, but give to all who are interested in my decision the most certain guarantee of a wise and disinterested judgment upon the conflicting claims which have occasioned me such unspeakable anxiety as to the path of duty.

Nothing was needed from you as the representatives of the Diocese of Central New-York to convince me of the unusual advantages and attractions of the Episcopate. It has seemed to me that none has ever been offered to any Presbyter of the Church so free from hindrances in the present or embarrassing entanglements in the future; none which carried with it the promise of a more cordial and united support by the clergy and laity, and, therefore of a more peaceful and happy administration.

If I have chosen another field, accepted another Episcopate, it is simply because it has seemed to me, after a solemn and conscientious review of the whole case, and after such wise counsel as I have been able to secure, that it was God's will that I should do so.

I beg to assure you, and through you the Diocesan Convention of Central New-York, of my sincere gratitude for this signal pro

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DEC. 13, 1868.

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To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

EUROPE.

The insurgents at Cadiz are reported to hold possession of strong positions, and to still defy the Government troops. There is great political excitement throughout the country, although no actual outbreaks have occurred except in Cadiz. A determined attack upon the Cadiz insurgents was to have been made yesterday. A rising of Carlists in Aragon is imminent.

The authorities of Greece are not inclined to yield to the demands of the Sultan of Turkey, as expressed in his ultimatum, and the Turkish Ambassador at Athens is consequently preparing to return home.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN has been released from prison, and has commenced suits against several persons for false imprisonment.

GENERAL.

The number of lives lost by the recent disaster on the Ohio River is believed to have been but sixty-five, instead of eighty. Fifty-four bodies have been recovered. An investigation of the sad catastrophe is to be made under orders from the authorities at Washington.

A Tobacco Inspector and eleven tobacco dealers were indicted at Covington yesterday, charged with having conspired to defraud the Government by making incorrect returns.

Yesterday morning, about 3 o'clock, a mob went to the jail at New-Albany, Ind., and immediately hung the four express robbers confined therein. The mob is supposed to have come from Seymour, where two or three express robberies were committed, and to consist of the same men who recently hung three other persons who were concerned in them. These last ones hung were the RENO brothers and CHARLES ANDERSON, whose rendition by the Canadian authorities cost the Government so much time and money. The "Seymour Regulators" have thus carried out their threats, and exterminated the gang of robbers who had so long infested their locality.

Dispatches from various parts of the country represent the weather to have been unusually cold during the past two days. Navigation on the principal rivers is closed by ice, and in the West the mercury sunk lower than in any previous December in twenty-two years.

JOSEPH HART, aged 18 years, charged with the murder of WILLIAM MCKEEVER, in Philadelphia, was yesterday found guilty of manslaughter, and recommended to mercy. Six other boys who participated in the fight, which resulted in the death of MCKEEVER, are yet to be tried.

Judge UNDERWOOD rendered a decision in the Supreme Court at Richmond, yesterday, which will doubtless result in the release of many convicts. SALLY ANDERSON was brought before him on a *habeas corpus*, she having received a death sentence for the crime of arson. It was contended in her behalf that one of the Magistrates before whom she was tried was disqualified from holding office by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, he having been in the rebel service, and that consequently the Court which sentenced her was illegally constituted. The Judge sustained the plea, and released the prisoner. One hundred and fifty-nine convicts, now in prison, and who were tried by courts similarly constituted, will doubtless take advantage of this decision.

It is reported that Keokuk and four other Indian Chiefs, who were recently arrested at Lawrence, Kansas, for attempting to visit Washington without permission, are about to bring suit against the officers responsible for their arrest for $10,000 damages. The Chiefs were locked up at the time and released on *habeas corpus*.

Col. WYNKOOP, Indian Agent, who has just tendered his resignation, says that he does so because he has been ordered to assemble the tribes for which he is agent at a certain point, and that certain volunteer white and Indian troops are marching for the same point with the avowed determination of slaughtering all who may there assemble. He denounces Gen. CUSTER'S recent fight as a massacre of innocent and friendly Indians, who were on their way to their own reservation, and he declines being a party to another like it.

LUKE TULLY yesterday attempted to kill his wife at Worcester, Mass., by shooting her, and failing to cause immediate death, shot himself and cut his throat. Neither were dead last night, but it is not believed TULLY can live. He had been absent from his wife two years, and on his return found his wife keeping a grocery store, and passing by the name of ENRIGHT, which was the name of her first husband.

The Bishop of Rupert's Land has written to Gen. SIBLEY, at St. Paul, Minn., that the distress in the Red River country is more severe than was apprehended even, and that, although a great deal has been contributed by charitable citizens of the Western States, the expense of freight will swallow up a very large portion of the gifts.

Thursday next has been fixed for the trial of Mr. and Mrs. TWITCHELL, for the murder of Mrs. HILL, mother of Mrs. TWITCHELL, in Philadelphia.

A mattress factory was burned at Kansas City, Mo., on Friday night, the loss by which is estimated at $20,000. It was insured for $15,000.

Dr. HOWE, in a letter to the Boston *Traveller*, contradicts the statement that the Cretans are subdued. He says that formidable parties in the interior continue to harass the Turkish troops whenever they venture beyond their fortifications, and have lost neither heart nor hope. He adds that MITZA and other leaders, who were reported as being on the eve of quitting the island in despair, have joined the insurgents with six hundred volunteers.

The Irish laborers in the Allegheny coal mining district have organized a Kuklux Klan, and are warning obnoxious persons to leave the country. Gov. SWANN has been asked to offer a reward.

The steamship *Crescent*, of the Galveston line, was burned at her dock in New-Orleans on Friday night, together with a large amount of freight. An explosion occurred during the fire, which injured ten men severely—one of them fatally. The loss is estimated at $200,000, on which there was no insurance.

The jail at Ocala, Fla., was recently partially destroyed by fire. The inmates, who were chained to the floor, were nearly suffocated by the smoke before they could be rescued. When the doors were opened, the poor wretches rushed out, and nearly all fell to the ground, overcome by the suffering and terror they had experienced. No lives were lost.

Mr. J. S. BEMAREE, an old resident and prominent business man of Quincy, Ill., died a few days ago, from the effects of an overdose of laudanum, which he had purchased from a careless druggist for tincture of rhubarb.

Last evening Dr. J. F. BOYNTON delivered a lecture on "The Introduction of Life upon our Planet," before the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. The large hall was thronged long before 8 o'clock with a very select auditory, who listened with attention to the interesting and instructive discourse.

Last evening Prof. R. OGDEN DOREMUS lectured, in Apollo Hall, on "Oxygen, its Characteristics and its Relations to Light, Heat, Electricity and Animal Life." The proceeds will be used for the Brotherhood of St. Ann's Church for Deaf Mutes, to sustain its mission work.

The Board of City Canvassers yesterday adopted the report of the Committee on Protests, indorsing the election returns from the Eleventh District, Ninth Ward, alleged to have been fraudulently concocted.

In the Board of Aldermen, yesterday, a resolution permitting Mr. KNOX to remove Loew Bridge and charge the expense to the City was laid over.

There were slaughtered at the abattoir at Communipaw, the past week, 823 beef cattle, 17,587 hogs and 8,920 sheep. Usually a much larger number of beeves than this is slaughtered during the week.

The Americanizing of England.

The English Liberal papers are full of lamentations over certain results of their recent election, which seem to have been utterly unexpected. It is complained that all the workingmen's candidates are thrown out, and there is thus no representation of the working classes, as such; and besides, most of the men of speculation or independent thought—"the philosophers," as they are called—are rejected. Private letters express the fear that the next House of Commons will be very stupid and monotonous indeed. The truth is, that there is nothing strange in these results; they are precisely the effects which are naturally to be expected from an extension of the suffrage.

There has been a romantic idea prevalent in England in regard to the working class, that somewhere in its depths a stratum of Toryism would be found, or, at all events, some peculiar knowledge or philosophy in regard to the working class as such. This philosophy, or these ideas, the Theorists said, ought to be represented in Parliament; if there was a mysterious virtue in them, the country ought to have the benefit of them; if they were gaseous, the public should know the fact. When the opportunity came, the working class were found not to desire men with such ideas to represent them, but men of another class, with wider experience and more culture.

The fact is the same here. The working class have in truth but few theories or "ideas" separate from those of the more cultivated classes, and those are of the crudest kind—whether this class be English or American. The great body of workingmen and mechanics distrust their own spouters and reformers, and prefer to be represented by the strong men of other classes. Who ever heard of the working class here sending one of their number to Congress as a workingman? He may indeed rise above his business and represent any body of men by his character and ability—the laborers as well as the professions—but as a laborer or mechanic, we do not find our constituencies electing him. As a body, the workingmen of this country are not peculiarly radical or liberal in politics, and perhaps will not be so in England. Strong common-sense views of a medium cast are much more likely to please them. As they rise in the social scale, and acquire property, they are found to be as conservative as the most aristocratic, in the protection of vested interests. Radicalism is a product of the middle class—of men who have time to think and means to study. There are, indeed, certain supposed interests of labor, which a laboring class will always seek to promote by their votes—such, for instance, as "Eight-hour laws;" but even for these they can always find supple demagogues to support them out of their own ranks. No laboring man, so far as we can remember, is now leading the advocacy of these laws in our legislative bodies. Then, as workingmen have votes, they cease to be a class, and their views and the men they favor become such as belong to the rest of the community, and these may represent one side or the other in politics.

Nor do we find that an extended constituency here, such as is made up of laborers, mechanics and shopkeepers, is likely to be especially in favor of "philosophers" and idealists. In the United States, our philosophers seldom appear in public life. What do our masses care for such thinkers as Mr. CAREY, or Dr. DRAPER, or Prof. PERRY, or President WOOLSEY? Even our literary men fare scarcely better. Mr. G. W. CURTIS, who is a man made by nature and education for high walks of public life and the high places of diplomacy, could not get a seat in the New-York Legislature from all the laborers of the City. Literary men are rewarded, indeed, at times, by a party, but it is not with seats in State Legislatures or Congress. Mr. GREELEY, indeed, has appeared in public life as a "philosopher," but not through the votes of the workingmen peculiarly; and besides, he represents an entirely immeasured and powerful class—the "Third Estate" of the Press—that "great partnership for collecting and diffusing public information," which will soon in England, as here, have a large share in popular representation.

But even he could not probably be elected again. The recent English experience is precisely our own.

The outrageous abuses and acts of violence which our able English correspondent has so graphically described as characterizing the recent elections, and which fill the columns of English journals, are not at all the effects of the "American system" of extended suffrage. They are the bequests of the former method of carrying on elections in England, when these events were the amusement or struggle within a certain class—"the prosperous class." As there was no contest of different classes or ranks, and as constituencies were small, great freedom was allowed.

Vote was taken by voices; a show of hands was made; the candidates must appear before the opposite electors; pelting, insulting and fighting were permitted; speakers could be interrupted, and the whole affair was a frank, genial row, like a College fracas among people who all understood one another. Now, however, with wide constituencies, with tremendous questions at hand, which are to shake the pillars of society, with labor at the polls and privilege being humbled, with many intense passions aroused, and a larger, more ignorant and uncontrolled class taking part in politics, such free and easy methods of voting and choosing members must be avoided. Great Britain must adopt our modes. Elections must be conducted by ballot; each side must have its own meetings and speakers, no interruption should be allowed, and the public must insist on as good order in a political assembly as at a lecture. Candidates must not appear personally, except on extraordinary occasions, and no intimidation over the elector be allowed. How long would public peace be preserved here if ISAIAH RYNDERS and his roughs were allowed to figure at a Republican meeting, as the Liberals do at a Tory gathering in England? Our canvass would soon become a kind of civil war. In this respect, England has yet further to be "Americanized."

A New Pilgrim's Progress.

Mayor OAKEY HALL, who has publicly announced his appreciation of journalistic laurels, makes another bold push for them in the January *Galaxy*, simultaneously with his elevation to civic renown. "Our Crime Land Excursion" is the title of his contribution to that magazine; and lest it be fancied, from this high-flown title, that he alludes to his *present* or opening career, we hasten to inform the reader that it is only a reminiscence he describes—a sort of Allegory drawn from the inviting pursuits of the District-Attorneyship. It is something in the John Bunyan vein—JOHN BUNYAN, Mr. A. OAKEY HALL.

At first blush, one might naturally suspect "Crime Land" to be an impolite synonym for New-York City—but no, for, we are told, "Crime Land's territory is boundless;" and yet "yes," for "of all lands, Crime Land is the most heavily taxed:" but again, *no*, for it "appertains to domains of *moral*, not physical geography;"—and yet once more *yes*, for "no particular forms of naturalization," says Mr. HALL, "are prescribed there"—especially, perhaps, *about election-time*.

However, this "excursion party" into Crime Land is headed by Mr. Clergyman, Mr. Detective, and Mr. Attorney, of whom the last "loves to play Sir Oracle, and ope his mouth." Mr. Attorney, Mr. A. OAKEY HALL.

Under the guidance of our inchoate Mayor, this "excursion party" travels through Misdemeanorshire, Jeremy-Diddlerboro, Assault-and-Batteryville, (*qu.* misprint for *Mackerelville?*) to Larcenyville, Forgery-Dale and Embezzlement, which latter, let us trust, does *not* mean, for the future, City Hall. And thus, having, as VIRGIL conducted DANTE, carried his party through some very infernal regions, Sir OAKEY charitably brings them up from the nether world to light and air again. But we have some misgivings regarding the means of exit he provides:

"Take our Court-house ferry-boat, quoth Mr. Attorney, as the party stood reflectively shivering in the damp air that hangs about these confines of Crime Land. That is a ferry-boat which will insure your safety. It will take you to the steps of those temples of justice that frown across the water on Crime Land as the Crime Landers frown on them. Through these temples you will find a dignified and proper entrance again into your various and happy homes of Good Land."

Say you so, modern John Bunyan? We fear that your companions have not quite so clear an idea as you of the safety and "dignity" of that tortuous alley of exit from "Crime Land." We fear that, on the whole, they might think the gauntlet of *some* of the Courts a worse one to run than the terrors they had safely passed.

However, such is the *Pilgrim's Progress* of our day, as expounded by the Ex-District-Attorney and new Mayor. It is a harmless way of traveling, good to amuse children at Christmas-tide, and Heaven send that none of them come hereafter into public offices where they may not find the "excursion" so innocent! Let us hope, too, that the obliging guide, who is "Mr. Attorney" no longer, has himself fairly emerged from these queer regions, and that all his new surroundings in City Hall will illustrate that pure, simple, innocent and Arcadian "Good Land" which, by way of contrast, he pleasantly sings.

Let Us Have Rest.

The *Israelite* is one of the leading organs of the Jews in the West. A writer in it has recently advocated the transfer of the Sabbath to Sunday, urging that a union of *all* upon this day will promote not only the religious aspirations of mankind, but will secure a more complete and satisfactory day of rest; and he states in this connection that the word "Sabbas" means simply REST.

Rest, then, being the great cardinal idea upon which Sunday is based, it is and should be doubly prized by us overworked Americans. Already the nerves and brains of our people are taxed beyond endurance. On every hand we see frightful evidences of this in the increase of paralysis, insanity, attenuation, nerve disease in every form; we see our people, as they get into the harness of life, abandoning all relaxation and amusement, or plunging into it, if at all, in the excitements of wine, gaming, horse-racing, &c., &c.; and we see, as a matter of course, men and women wrecks at forty, or lying fast asleep under "green bedclothes," their work and their lives but half done.

Now, whatever views men may have about the proper observance of this divine day, whether they advocate the practices of Catholic Rome, or of Puritan Boston, all will admit that it ought to be a day of rest. We hold it to be a vital thing, a reviving and renewing of life, that all our people on this one day of seven—even if they do not go inside a church—lay aside the plow and the hammer, drop their buying and selling, shave and wash and dress themselves decently, walk about with their families, read their books or newspapers, and thus thoroughly change the drift of their thoughts as well as their occupations.

We believe this is a vast benefit, inasmuch as it secures a relaxation of the tension of daily toil and speculation, even if it does nothing more; and we *know* that this rest of one day in seven is a most important fact in securing health to our people. In this point of view alone, and not in its sacred character, we have preferred to speak of it, and we strongly second the movement initiated by the *Israelite*, representing, as we understand it to do, the advanced thought of an influential body who are every day growing in numbers, wealth and intelligence.

The End of the Freedman's Bureau.

Some gentlemen from Virginia are pleading at Washington, it is understood, for the continuance of the Freedman's Bureau in that State beyond the present year, mainly on the ground that Virginia is not yet reconstructed. We cannot but think that the precise case they make has been answered by Gen. HOWARD in his letter to Gen. BROWN. No man, surely, is more competent to judge of the time when its general work should end. The remnant of operations, *i. e.*, the claim work and school work, which will extend into next year, forms so small a part of its complex duties that we may regard the career of the Bureau as already substantially over.

Whoever shall undertake to write the obituary of the Freedman's Bureau will be unjust to its great work unless he finds much in it to admire. An institution unprecedented in history, attempting a most trying and difficult work under great disadvantages, and with local and partisan prejudices arrayed against it, it has yet proved, upon the whole, a memorable success. Its sound and substantial work will live after it, as an expressive eulogy, and it will take a very high rank among schemes of governmental philanthropy.

Contrived originally for the "wards of the nation," it soon became a Freeman's as well as a Freedman's Bureau—a poor white's benefactor. The experiment of making a slave population of several millions self-supporting and self-dependent almost in a day, was an amazing one; and the task imposed upon the Bureau was to bridge over the chasm between dependence and independence. What crime and what anarchy it has withheld from the South by its beneficent intervention, we shall never thoroughly know; but we may partly compute them by reflecting on the possibility of an agrarian, servile insurrection, which unrelieved poverty and hunger, or unchecked cruelty and persecution might have excited. Though, were there no danger of these or other calamities, common justice demanded that the power which had freed the slaves, should make them *fit* for freedom, lest this last should prove a curse to the very objects of national charity.

But, not content with this work,—enormous alike in retrospect and prospect—the Bureau stretched its benefactions to all the destitute and suffering within its territorial range, in a generous theory that charity knows no distinction of color. And thus it turned out that, in many regions, statistics showed that a greater amount of provisions and clothing had been distributed by it to poor whites, than to freedmen.

The breadth and variety of the Bureau's operations are equally worthy of note and praise. It was organized with consummate skill, spreading its ramifications so widely as to reach all conditions of men. Not only did it, throughout the dread period of penury that always visits the battle-regions wasted by a long civil war, supply the needy, but it laid out prosperous careers for them in the future. While feeding the hungry and clothing the naked, it found employment for the idle, and so preserved a population of slaves from becoming vagabonds. It grappled the terrible problem everywhere subsisting between capital and labor, but there at the South especially menacing and difficult. It administered a rude justice when other resource there was none, and often has shielded the oppressed. So wide a range of duties is rarely imposed on an organization so unprecedented.

Mistakes it undoubtedly committed; instances, doubtless, there are, where its operations have been unfortunate; no doubt, too, some of its agents have been incompetent, others ignorant quacks, and some few knaves. But these are isolated instances—these are the exceptions. The general rule has been the rule of sound, useful, orderly, just and generous administration. And probably few historic instances of less abuse of authority can be found in the depositories of equal power.

But, with the practical end of the necessity which called it into being, it is better that the Bureau should cease to exist. It is an abnormal and irregular instrument of government, at best; it was constructed to meet the overbearing exigency of the hour, and now that the exigency is over, it should give way to ordinary means. It is a drain upon national resources, which should not last when local beneficence can take its place. Gen. HOWARD'S is the right theory. The Bureau has now lasted three years, he says, and has been in constant operation. Now, it is well to give the freedmen a chance to see what they can do for themselves. It has helped them to a career in which they can march. It is the crutch, which must be taken away at length, that the weak may learn to walk.

The State of Texas.

We hope every one of our readers carefully perused Gen. REYNOLD'S annual report on the affairs of Texas, which we published some days since. Let not his pride as an American citizen mislead him into the supposition that the country there described is under the domination of savages—in Central Africa—or in the Cannibal Islands—but let him bear in mind that it is a so-called State of the Federal Union. If he can realize all this, and not feel the deepest concern for the Unionists, black and white, and the strongest indignation against their cruel persecutors, he must indeed be insensible to the cries of justice and of suffering. Now that the political sky is clear, and there are no present electioneering purposes to be served, may we not confidently expect that this guarded and temperate account of the forces that sway society in Texas will be read and pondered?

We find that the Kuklux-Klan is no myth, but a veritable society composed of bodies of armed men extending throughout nearly every section of the State—plotting in secret, and executing its decrees at noonday—moving like the pestilence with unpitying strides, and smiting its victims without remorse; that civil law everywhere gives way before this exigency of menace and assassination; that "*in many counties men have been indicated by name from the speaker's stand as those selected for murder;*" that "*the murder of negroes is so common as to render it impossible to keep an accurate account of them.*"

That these bodies are not a few, scattered, predatory bands acting without concert and flying from the pursuit of avenging justice, but a thoroughly organized society of which civil officers in many counties are confessed members, and where membership is declined, banishment is the penalty—an organization not discouraged by a majority of white people where its ramifications exist, but countenanced and patronized by Democratic meetings and barbecues—an armed organization whose objects "seem in this State to be to disarm, rob, and in many cases murder Union men and negroes, and as occasion may offer, murder United States officers and soldiers; also to intimidate every one who knows anything of the organization, but will not join it." It is perfectly apparent that the aim of these bodies is to accomplish by ravage and slaughter at home what they lost on the battlefields of the Confederacy—that they hope to defeat the reconstruction measures of Congress by extirpating the race of freedmen and the Union whites.

This lawless violence on the part of the inhabitants of Texas is well calculated to excite Congress to still more stringent acts of legislation. We hope the people of Texas themselves will render this unnecessary. The Congressional system of reconstruction has worked well elsewhere, and will, if faithfully applied, do for Texas what it has already done for other Southern States. But the reckless rebels of Texas may rest assured that they will not be allowed to continue their persecution of Union men, or their brutal and unprovoked warfare on their enfranchised slaves. And the sooner they make up their minds to this, and act on the conviction of its truth, the better will it be for them and for all the interests, social, industrial and political, of their State.

Portland Looking Up.

After the October election, when Republicans were singing "Oh! have you heard the news from Maine?" the *World* got into bad humor with the Pine Tree State. It was 'way down East; it hung on the verge of the Republic; it was far removed from the softening and civilizing influences of great cities; it has no great political institutions like Tammany Hall and the Fifth Ward; in fine, it was sunk hub-deep in Republicanism.

Nevertheless, the Maine people survived the diatribe of the *World*. They gave GRANT a rousing majority in November, and, election being over, are now hard at work, according to our correspondent, at pushing their State into the front rank of the Union sisterhood, as regards energy and business success. "Portland," we are told, "has its 'drummers' as far north as the shadow of Katahdin, and as far east as where the sky looks Newfoundlandward." This is at once poetical and promising. Vastly different is this state of things from that of the famous description by a Boston wit and poet of "Portland, Newburyport and Portsmouth" as the three aged and decayed specimens of a by-gone gentility and grandeur, all with a *port* in their names.

Boston "drummers" once drummed Maine from Eastport to Gorham; and among the best of these drummers were her own sons, who came back to reap their own crops, for others to harvest. Maine used to be "a great State to emigrate from;" but now, we are told, "a new era is opening up for her," and she is determined to give her youth a chance to make a fortune at home.

Portland has wisely turned the conflagration that laid waste her warehouses to a "blessing in disguise," by building a magnificent city upon their ashes. Our enthusiastic correspondent declares it to be "no exaggeration to say that Portland is to-day the most prosperous city on the New-England coast." However that may be, it has the *materials* for greatness—a fine harbor, deep enough to accomodate the biggest Great Eastern that will ever be built; a good commercial position as regards Maine, Northern New-Hampshire and Vermont, and all Canada; behind it a broad State, with breadstuffs enough, if raised, in her own soil, to feed all the Maine people, without a dollar's worth of importation; "a water-power twenty times larger," as is claimed, "than that of Massachusetts;" and great manufacturing and agricultural resources and advantages.

Accordingly, we find Portland struggling for a share of the freight trade of the West and of Canada, new local railroads constructing, and an air-line to the West under consideration, new lines of European steamers talked of, New-York, Boston and Providence capital passing into the State, mills and factories going up. All this looks well. We in New-York can afford to nod approval to these efforts, and to welcome all new aspirants for a higher position among the coatwise cities.

The New House of Commons.

We are now in possession of the full election returns for Great Britain, with the exception of those for a few Irish and Scotch counties, in none of which any very important personal issue was involved. At the date of the latest mail advices, 633 members had been elected, leaving 26 seats only to be filled; and, although we have not yet learned the exact figures of the majority with which the Liberals took the field in the new Parliament, it may safely be taken at between 105 and 110. That is to say, roughly speaking, 380 members are pledged as far as hustings pledges can bind them, to support Mr. GLADSTONE'S Irish policy, while 275 only follow the lead of Mr. DISRAELI. As far as numerical results go, this is much what was anticipated. The Liberals had a majority of seventy in the late House. After balancing gains and losses in the recent elections, the party claims a net gain of seventeen or eighteen seats, thus increasing their majority on a division by double that number of votes.

The composition of the new House is very nearly identical, in respect of classes, with that of its predecessor. The sons, brothers, nephews and cousins of the great Peers muster in undiminished force. In the last House of Commons, it was estimated that there were not far from one hundred members near relatives of the thirty "great governing families" of England, and the number cannot be much less in the present House. Liberal or Tory, the great territorial families have held their own. Stanleys, Hamiltons, Lennoxes, Percies, Lowthers and Egertons on the Tory side, and Russells, Cavendishes, Greys and Grosvenors on the Liberal side, take their accustomed places in the list. The Liberals among them are a little more Liberal, and the Tories a little less Tory, that is all the difference. There is the usual number of new-made millionaires, who seek social distinction through the portals of Parliamentary life. The proportion of barristers, practising and non-practising, of army and navy officers, of brewers, bankers and manufacturers, remains unchanged. The changes in the composition of the House, in fact, are political and personal only; no change of class whatever, has been effected by the appeal to the newly enfranchised electors. The so-called "workingmen's candidates" were hopelessly defeated in every quarter, workingmen themselves preferring candidates of the old House of Commons class to the specimens of workingmen presented for their choice.

Personally and locally, however, there have been some very great changes. Many characters of political weight or striking personal characteristics have disappeared from the scene, some never to resume their seats in St. Stephen's. And although the general result of the contest surprises nobody, the swaying to and fro of the battle-line in different sections of the country has brought out some striking and unexpected developments of local political sentiment. Lancashire, for example, the most important county in England, and hitherto a stronghold of Liberalism, has returned twenty-one Conversatives to eleven Liberals, rejecting, among other influential Liberals, Mr. GLADSTONE, the present Premier, and the Marquis of Hartington, the eldest son of the great Whig Duke of Devonshire, and himself a Liberal chieftain of mark. Many different causes for this sweeping change have been assigned by the defeated party, but the result has evidently surprised victors as well as vanquished. A good many different influences have probably been at work in Lancashire, to the detriment of the Liberal cause, not the least important among which has been the hostility entertained by the great mass of voters toward the large numbers of Irish Catholics who flock to the large cities of the country in search of employment. Mr. GLADSTONE'S personal unpopularity, undoubtedly, went far to bring about his defeat in his own division, but so far it is not easy to account altogether for the strong Conservative reaction that manifested itself in almost every portion of the country, and the moral effect of which has considerably damped the enthusiasm of the Liberals on account of their material victory. In the case of Lord HARTINGTON, the contest was one of the old-fashioned sort—a Stanley against a Cavendish—and as the Stanleys have been lords of the soil for eight hundred years, while the Cavendishes rose to name and fortune on the dissolution of the monasteries only, the superior *prestige* of the name carried the day in face of the greater rank and wealth of the ducal head of the Cavendishes. But in the other divisions and boroughs of the county it is clear that popular feeling was adverse, on principle, to the Liberal candidates.

Turning away from Lancashire, there are few Tory triumphs to chronicle. Through the application of the provision for the representation of minorities, by which no voter can vote for the full number of members to be returned in constituencies returning more than two, the Tories have carried one of the four seats for the City of London, displacing Baron ROTHSCHILD, whose neglect of Parliamentary duties and indifference to the interests of his constituents had of late rendered him highly unpopular. In Westminster, the largest newspaper dealer in the world, standing on Tory principles, ejected Mr. J. S. MILL. But in no other metropolitan district did the Tories make even a decent stand-up fight. They won a seat for the County of Middlesex, but out of the twenty seats for Metropolitan constituencies, they only secured the two we have mentioned.

For the rest, the victory of the Liberals in many parts of the country where Toryism had previously been supreme, far more than compensated for the success of the Tories in Lancashire, and their isolated gains elsewhere. Essex, for example, a purely agricultural county, which not many years ago sent its full complement of representatives to swell the Tory ranks, is now divided against itself, the Liberals winning five seats out of ten. It is clear that the workings of the new electoral system, which seems to encourage Toryism in manufacturing districts, and Liberalism in agricultural districts, are not fully understood as yet. It is true that local and personal accidents affect the result of elections in England to an extent which we in America find it difficult to realize, but it is impossible to account for all the phenomena of the recent general election on these grounds.

The new House, as we have stated, consists of very much the same men, and entirely of the same classes, as the last. Its members, however, are responsible to very different constituent bodies, and it will not be safe to presume that its action in all matters will be the same. The new electors, we fancy, have in reality got a will of their own, and though they may, with English dislike to sudden changes, be willing again to try their old representatives, or new ones of the same class, we cannot doubt that there is now a latent power in English politics that may at any time bring about very unexpected results, should any questions arise on which their interests, as a class, are identical, and should the latter fail to adapt themselves to their new position and enlarged responsibilities.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We wish we had such a Common Council in New-York as they have in Boston. The Boston Common Council have just passed an order for giving free public concerts in one of the halls in the city during the months of December, January and February. No wonder that Boston is able to boast of its civilization.

A French *Procureur-Imperial*, (or what we might call District-Attorney,) who conducted one of the recent Press prosecutions at Clermont-Ferrand, exhibited a knowledge of American ways for which he deserves to be complimented. After having descanted at length upon the calmness and gravity which should be brought to political discussion and the conduct of political affairs, he remarked that the French people, in these things, ought to imitate the example of the Americans, who *prepared themselves for their elections by three days of fasting.* Of course, it is not necessary for us to say that this is the exact truth; but it must always be a matter of wonder in this country how Frenchmen get such precise knowledge of American habits.

A heartless, and probably earless, advertiser, has been moving one of his advertising wains through the City streets, on which hangs and rings a monstrous *bell*. Wherever it goes it is an unmitigated nuisance—yet it does not seem to be interfered with by the Police. If this thing goes on, the advertising nuisances hitherto in vogue will be celestial compared with such an outrage. With rival traders and hucksters ringing rival bells, each outdoing the other in noise, the din of the stone pavements will be as music, and the whole island will be uninhabitable. We say with Othello, "Silence that dreadful bell! It frights the isle from its propriety."

The Brooklyn *Eagle* of Friday puts, as its leading item under the head of "Crimes and Casualties," an account of a Milwaukee marriage, where the bridegroom was 61 and the fair bride 87. Was this a "crime" or a "casualty"—or both?

The point on which the verdict turned in the Cole case was the state of mind of the accused at the *instant* of the homicide. In view of that decision, what is hereafter to become of the element of "malice *aforethought*," hitherto considered the essential element of murder?

As it appears the ROTHSCHILDS are anxious to obtain a reputation for benevolence, we suggest to some one of them to pay off our national debt. It is a great bother to all honest people—and Gen. BUTLER.

The cause of the Jews is everywhere thriving in the world, and they are looking forward to better things. This does not mean that they intend to fulfill their own old prophecies and return to build up their restored nationality in Jerusalem; they show no desire to return. Seven Jews have been elected to the English Parliament, and we should not wonder if a few more were sent into the coming Cortes of Spain. The Spanish Bishops, alarmed by the claims of the Spanish Hebrews and other heretics, are about to meet in grand council at Toledo, to deliberate and do what they can in such a depressing state of things. But the spirit of liberty and the power of money will do as much in Spain as they have done everywhere else.

Scientific men, by a blundering experiment with coal tar and fragments of slate, which for a long time were both a nuisance, have discovered that when the Vermont sheet slate is ground to a fine powder and mingled with coal tar, *in definite proportions*, the plastic material will reconstruct in a short period of time and form slate, which is susceptible of as fine a polish as a schoolboy's slate. The Legislature of the State of New-York instituted a thorough investigation of this subject, last Winter, touching the adaptation of this plastic for covering the roofs of public buildings and decks of any kind of boats, and that body were so thoroughly satisfied of its excellence as a durable roofing material—and more than as cheap again as the best of tin—that an act was passed legalizing the use of what was termed "plastic slate," for roofing purposes, in all the cities and villages of the State, even "within the limits of fire districts," where the municipal or corporation authorities had passed an ordinance to allow no building to be covered with a combustible material. Strange as it may appear, after the coal tar, which is highly inflammable, has united with the slate flour, a fire may be kindled directly on the roof of a building, and the roofing will not burn any sooner than the Vermont slate.

The Commissioner of Agriculture reports very favorably of all our harvests, especially those of the South, which is recovering in a remarkable degree some of its former conditions. The present yield of cotton there is as great as that of the year 1850, and about half the amount of the extraordinary products of 1859 and 1860. The receipts in cash for the year 1867 were larger in figures than those of 1859—though of course allowance must be made for the different values of the dollar. In the last two years the product in sugar has been doubled, and rice cultivation is thriving in nearly the same proportion. Nature is still the same in the South, and all her elements of plenty and prosperity are as numerous and flourishing as ever.

It is noted as a remarkable item by all our exchanges that "the Boston Custom House has just furnished a *minister* for a church in Indiana." Perhaps it is remarkable; but which are we to congratulate and which to pity—church or Custom House?

The Salem (N. J.) *Standard* reports, in somewhat general terms, that "an opening, several feet in diameter, through a wall of iron and stone and brick," representing the plated wall of Fort Delaware, was made by heavy guns discharged in the late series of target experiments. It regards this as "an item of proof that Uncle Sam paid too much for his whistle when he built that fort." The truth is, that the builders of this fort and all others did well for their day. No discredit whatever reflects upon the engineers of a former era from the fact that modern invention has rendered their devices no longer shot-proof. Nor, in any case, would the responsibility for these forts descend, as if by a sort of lineal professional succession, upon the engineers of our day.

Occasionally, and, in fact, frequently, the *World* compiles wondrous statistical articles regarding its conjectural or inferential circulation. We fancy these bright bits of legerdemain in figures might be more satisfactory if the *World* would first tell its readers whether they are more work of that same arithmetical genius that ciphered Democratic victories out of the elections in Maine and Vermont.

It appears, then, that WESTON has been compelled to delay starting on his proposed walk on account of the non-arrival of funds. With ordinary mortals, however, impecuniosity usually has just the opposite effect, for they are sure to be compelled to "walk" when their funds give out, especially if they board or are left the mercy of a hard-hearted landlord. But that a pity it is that such an important event as "WESTON'S great walk" should be postponed for want of paltry dollars and cents? Not that we believe the world would be any the worse if Mr. WESTON were henceforth to forswear walking and devote himself exclusively to velocipeding; but then it would be so consoling for those of us who are not rich and cannot ride in chaises, as we plow our way through the slush and mud of the New-York streets, to think of the determined WESTON pursuing his course from Bangor to St. Paul, regardless of wind and weather. It is to be hoped, therefore, for the benefit of those who are compelled to crush mud with their own feet instead of those of their horses, that Mr. WESTON will be able to procure the necessary funds, and will soon again commence his persevering march and endeavor.

TOWN TOPICS.

Much inquiry is made concerning the underground railroad which was chartered by the last Legislature. What have the Directors done, and is there any prospect of an immediate commencement of the work? The charter does not require any subscription to the stock before the first of next month, and then $300,000 are required to be raised and deposited with the City authorities as a voucher that the enterprise will be carried out. This being done, the Company afterward have a wide margin for delay, and expectants of the advantages of the road will have to be patient. A short time since it was said that English capitalists were desirous of constructing the road on contract, but that plan has come to naught, the incorporators believing it more to their profit to have the work done with American dollars. The expense of excavating the roadway has been ascertained to be far less than was originally supposed.

The Twenty-second Regiment has been presented with an elegant silver punch bowl by its Long Branch friends, and is now in somewhat of a quandary what to do with it. As the bowl is the property of the entire regiment it cannot be used exclusively by either officers or men, and yet it is not large enough to contain a hundredth part of the punch necessary to slake their combined thirst. In view of this dilemma it is proposed that the regiment should join the Total Abstinence Society, and place this punch bowl among its archives as a memorial of the drinking it has done but will do no more.

MOORE and HICKEY, the Deputy Sheriffs who had recourse to fire-arms in serving a process at the Broadway Theatre in August last, and whose random shooting severely wounded two or three non-offending persons, have been discharged from custody. Police Justice SHANDLEY, who made an examination into the circumstances of the affray, determined that the accused in going into the theatre for a lawful purpose, had not transcended their authority, or used their weapons unnecessarily. This disposition of the matter will astonish a great many people who very properly believe that the irruption of half a dozen armed men upon the stage of a crowded theatre, making confusion among the actors, and exciting and alarming the audience, can be warranted only by the extremest necessity. The right of the play-goers to a peaceable evening, which ought to have been considered by these boisterous officers, has been entirely ignored. The Sheriff ought to employ more discreet assistants.

An Association of Workingmen has recently been organized here, which intends to have branches in every Ward of the City, where lectures and essays upon labor-subjects will be furnished during the Winter to working people. If the class of persons, for the benefit of whom the movement has been initiated shall evince sufficient interest, the society will establish itself on a permanent basis, and open reading-rooms and libraries at convenient places, and eventually enlarge its sphere of usefulness by organizing mechanic institutes after the model of those in Great Britain. The success of an undertaking of this sort that has been lately begun in Brooklyn, under the auspices of Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER'S Church, seems to be well assured.

Gen. BUTTERFIELD has requested the Commissioners of the Central Park to commemorate the name of a brave Revolutionary soldier by designating as *Knowlton-avenue* the new avenue

Washington Heights. As it is more than likely this request will be conceded, it may be worth while to see that the name of the Revolutionary officer thus to be honored is rightly spelled. Gen. BUTTERFIELD always writes him down as Col. KNOWLTON, but he himself wrote it KNOLTON. So, at least, says Mr. DAWSON, the editor of the *Historical Magazine*, who has the original of several of Col. KNOLTON's letters in his possession.

It is very common, at this inclement season, to see upon the sidewalks of the principal thoroughfares numbers of barefooted and half-clad children, who beg of the passers-by, or vainly attempt to sell toothpicks, shoestrings, and other "unconsidered trifles." For the most part these shivering little creatures are the offspring of heartless parents, who expose them to the weather simply to excite the commiseration of the charitable, and thus secure the means wherewith to indulge their own depraved appetites. There seems to be no method by which the parents can be directly punished for their inhumanity, and the Police have now adopted the alternative of checking the practice by arresting the children. The Commissioners of Charities and Correction take good care of the little vagrants, and the evil bids fair to disappear.

The amputated soldiers and sailors, cut off without a shilling by an ungrateful Republic, who grind out a miserable subsistence, and daily deafen the public ear with organized discordances, make anything but a mute appeal for consideration and material aid. Something should be done to enable them to live without thus exposing themselves in the cold weather. A timely mode of relieving their present necessities might be found in giving them the proceeds of a course of lectures upon themes connected with the cause for which they suffered. Some time in the future, we hope to see them comfortably cared for in a *Hotel des Invalides* situated somewhere near the Central Park. It is disgraceful that we have not one already. Let it be borne in mind, however, that such an institution will never be established by means of such schemes as the swindling Gettysburg Asylum gift enterprise.

The destruction of the Loew Bridge was to have been commenced yesterday, but the cold weather opposed an obstacle. To-morrow a beginning will probably be made, if the fingers of the laborers are not too numb. The arch enemy of the bridge, Mr. KNOX, whose business has suffered from the structure, has been empowered by the Street Commissioner to effect the removal. A very poor and expensive attempt at improvement will thus, in a short time, disappear, and the junction of Broadway and Fulton-street be no longer overshadowed.

The bad management of the North Shore Staten Island Ferry, and the dangerous condition of its boats, is a fruitful source of complaint. A correspondent assures us that on board the steamer *Huguenot* several accidents have occurred within two weeks. Her boiler would seem to be in a perennial state of leakiness. On the 30th of last month the boat was filled with steam from this cause, and great consternation was excited among the passengers. A large number of those on board escaped to a neighboring pier, thus increasing the excitement among those who were left behind, and if the occurrence had happened a few moments later, after the boat had got fairly out into the Bay, loss of life would undoubtedly have resulted. On the 3d and 4th instant similar trouble occurred, again jeopardizing life. Another steamer of the same ferry, not long since, ran afoul of a schooner, demolishing one of her paddle-boxes, and was forced ashore in a sinking condition. Complaint is also made of the long time which is often spent in making the trips—fifty minutes instead of thirty. This is an intolerable state of affairs, particularly when it is remembered that the Company has made dividends during the past year of twenty-five per cent. in stock and sixteen per cent. in cash. New and safe boats ought to be provided at once.

Now that the snow and slushy days are come, the saddest of the year, would it not be most considerate and humane if the City authorities—whoever they may be in the case—were to have a few men on hand after every fall of snow, to clear a passage for pedestrians at the principal down-town crossings—only the crossings? These crossings, as everybody knows, with their slippery knobs and puddles and the wretched people scrambling through them, are the most scandalous and imbecile spectacles visible to the naked eye anywhere. When we consider that about fifty men in a morning, after every snow-storm, could clear a hundred of these crossings in an hour, we are astonished—or ought to be astonished—that the Mayor will not have such a facile piece of duty performed.

All the markets are supplied bountifully with good meats, poultry and fish; and prices are reasonable. Persons of moderate means would do well to avail themselves of the opportunity now presented by the freezing weather of laying in a stock of provisions at the ruling rates. By coöperating in the purchase of whole carcasses of beef and mutton, a few neighbors might secure for themselves a double supply of good food at less than half the usual cost.

Some of the conductors of our City cars appear to have lately discovered a new method of swindling passengers, in the matter of giving change, which the public should be warned about. If a twenty-five or fifty cent stamp is handed them, they affect to believe it is only ten cents, and return the passenger four cents in change, trusting to his forgetfulness to overlook the peculation. This little game is generally practiced at night, when the cars are crowded. Of course, if the passenger persists in demanding his change, he gets it, but without any apology for the mistake (?).

The Vital Registrar's Phantoms.

A few years ago the vigilant Dogberrys connected with the Coroner's Department of this City startled the whole community by the fearful discovery of a subtle and unknown poison in the oyster.

It appears that a poor unfortunate man, much addicted to large potations of spirituous liquors, was discovered one morning dead in his bed, and at the examination that followed before the Coroner, the remarkable fact was elicited that the poor deceased had eaten quite a hearty supper of oysters the night previous to his death. The injurious effect that sometimes attends the imbibition of large draughts of brandy in a person suffering at the same time from severe visceral disease, was utterly ignored by the gentlemen in inquest, and a verdict was rendered that the unfortunate wretch "died from oysters." An embargo was at once placed on the sale of the innocent fish by that verdict, more potent and successful in its workings than all the laws of Congress to prevent smuggling or the illicit distillation of whisky. The injury to the labor, commerce and capital engaged in the business, following such an announcement, can scarcely be conceived without the figures. The hurt to the poor, half-starved, whose brains are taxed almost beyond human endurance, and fed best by the phosphorus found in the meat of the now despised bivalve, was saddening beyond expression, to say nothing of the idiosyncracies of some invalids, whose sensitive and exacting stomachs would permit no other food to pass the cardiac orifice. "Little Necks" no longer charmed the fastidious, and "Blue Points" and "Shrewsburys" were to the epicure "like a phantasma, or a hideous dream."

When the Metropolitan Board of Health came into existence with all its pomp, with its Health Commissioners, Sanitary Superintendent, Vital Statisticians, Attorneys, Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors—selected from among those young gentlemen who wisely remained at home during the war that they might serve us in civil life in time of peace—we hoped, fondly hoped, that the "clouds that were hovering o'er us" would at once be dispelled, and plagues and zymotic diseases, and other unwelcome visitors, would be things of the past. But a trichina parasite appeared, and in its efforts to worm itself through a Teutonic cuticle, convulsed the whole medico-scientific world, and the Vital Registrar, whose duty it is to keep a record of the births, marriages and deaths of this district, felt impelled to wield his eloquent pen against the microscopic monster, who, in a few isolated cases, had avenged the audacity of those who had swallowed him "raw." But pork sustained a blow in the estimation of its admirers, and in price, from which it will not soon recover. The sequel, which proved that trichina well-boiled is not more injurious than the fibre of beef or pork itself, never gained the same publicity. Following this came the Asiatic cholera excitement, and the opinion prevails among many of the best physicians here and elsewhere, that not a single case of Asiatic cholera has existed here for many years.

During the Summer months, when the weather was so intensely hot and enervating that men pursuing their ordinary vocations were stricken dead on the streets, and others suffering to such an extent that life was despaired of for many weeks, the poor herds of cattle coming from the far West and Texas were found on arrival to be suffering from a disease, which, for want of a better name, was called the "cattle-plague." Coming a long distance—pent up in foul cars without a proper supply of either healthy food or water, and entirely cut off from their usual exercise, the poor beasts naturally languished, and died either shortly before or soon after arrival. They died because proper provision was not made for them during the time of transportation from Texas. Had our farmers in Central New-York taken their finest cattle and sent them in a similar way to Texas during the same hot season they would have died in Texas soon after arrival, evincing similar symptoms, and out there it would doubtless have been called "The New-York Cattle-plague." The vital Registrar, accompanied by a corps of butchers and State assistants and commissioners, vied with each other in their folios of reports to the newspapers; all the disgusting features of the slaughtering of cattle were fully illustrated in the weekly newspapers, including portraits of the investigators; and nothing was discovered. Beef fell in price, and cattle speculators failed, but not a single death occurred to any consumer, though tons were eaten daily under the nose of the Recorder of deaths. A few days since a slur was cast on the "staple of life," and had not the microscopists come quickly to the rescue, the poor would have been forced to "hard tack," and the rich consoled only with the royal Albert biscuit.

Coexisting with the evils in the Board of Health there is much good; the pressure against the rascalities of the owners of tenement property has produced excellent results, and we are led to believe that more labor and less rhetoric might rid us of bone-boiling establishments, and free us from the extortions of corrupt gas companies. We have too long listened "to the whispers of fancy," and demand now that officers of the people attend to their legitimate duties, and enlarge their sphere of usefulness. H.

THEATRICAL.

Notes About the Players and New Plays.

Miss MARKHAM, of the Lydia Thompson troupe, has been ill for a couple of evenings, and her place as *Venus* was supplied by one of the other beauties of the company. "Ixion" is to be withdrawn very shortly, and the "Field of the Cloth of Gold" will follow it at Wood's Museum. This extravaganza is also to be the holiday piece at the New-York Theatre, and there the WORRELL buds of loveliness will pit themselves against the English blondes at Wood's. Mr. WARE has localized the burlesque for the WORRELLS "to the fullest extent," and Mr. MEADER has done that work for the piece at Wood's. Whether the Lydia Thompson troupe are to make the "Field" lively at the museum, however, may or may not be settled. It has been stated that these fair ones with golden locks have been secured for Niblo's Garden, and that they will presently succeed "After Dark" at that house.

The WORRELL sisters appeared in Washington last evening. On Monday they return to their own theatre, and will produce an English version of "Barbe Bleu."

Mme. GAZZANIGA is to sing to-night at Steinway Hall.

Mr. HAYES is busily engaged night and day upon the new scenery for "Humpty Dumpty." That lively pantomime is to undergo another renewal between Christmas and New-Years, and this time the reconstruction is to be thorough, and will include a new introductory burlesque, a number of new mechanical tricks, imported from London expressly for the piece, and a complete rehabilitation of the characters. New ballets will of course be introduced, but no change is announced to take place in Mdlle. SANGALI or Mr. FOX; they will be graceful and funny as before.

It used to be BARNUM's dodge, whenever he secured a giant for his Museum, to immediately work him (after Mr. Crummles' manner) into a drama for the stage. "Gulliver" was the favorite piece in those days. Mr. WOOD having come across a giant for his up town Museum, seems to be inclined to repeat BARNUM's little game. Next week, we see that astute gentleman announces that *his* giant, Mons. BEHIN will appear in "The Giant of Palestine," which is to be produced on the afternoons of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The San Francisco Minstrels produce "Bone Squash Diabolo" to-morrow with a unique view of of the infernal regions.

It was stated about town yesterday that Mr. PIKE had bought an extensive piece of property at the intersection of Broadway and Sixth-avenue, for the purpose of building a new Opera House.

Mr. BOOTH appears in Buffalo on the 14th and in Pittsburg the 21st. These will be his last engagements out of New-York prior to the opening of his new theatre. The successes of Mr. BOOTH during his recent tour have been "tremendous." In Chicago, during the two weeks he played, $24,193 were taken in.

"Much Ado About Nothing" is to be the opening play at the Chicago Opera House this season; it will be produced on the 14th, with the following company: James G. Burnett, McKee Rankin, A. D. Bradley, C. A. McManus, George W. Garrison, Geo. F. Mackitt, M. W. Fisk, J. W. Jennings, J. L. Barrett, Fanny Morgan Phelps, Jean Clara Walters, May Howard, Anna Marble, Mary Maddern, Josie Booth, Kate Putnam, Mrs. J. W. Jennings.

Mr. CHANDOS FULTON's new drama of "Nita; or, Woman's Constancy," has met with admirable success wherever it has been played. In Cincinnati it ran two weeks, and Mlle. ZOE is to produce it on the 14th in Lafayette, Ind.

Mr. FORREST's success recently, in Troy, must put New-Yorkers to the blush. On the night of his last appearance the box-office was not opened at night at all, every seat and ticket having been sold in the daytime.

Mrs. LANDER played in Newark last Thursday. Mrs. SCOTT-SIDDONS is to appear in that city to-morrow evening.

Mr. BROUGHAM's "Lottery of Life" has found its way to Texas. It has been successful at the Galveston Theatre.

OLE BULL was in Cincinnati, concertizing last week. He will be at Harrisburg, Penn., to-morrow evening.

E. L. DAVENPORT has been secured by the Boston Theatre management for a circuit through the New-England towns of fifteen nights.

Col. FITZGERALD's new play, "Wolves at Bay," has been produced at the Arch-street Theatre. The plot relates to a strike among the miners in the west of Pennsylvania, and the sensation is a trestle bridge over which a train of cars tumbles and is destroyed.

The new Dearborn Theatre in Chicago is a building of brick, with stucco front, ninety feet high, fifty feet wide and 110 feet deep. The auditorium has a depth of fifty-nine feet, and is sixty-five feet high. The stage is forty feet deep, with a space of seventy feet above and eighteen feet below.

A new theatre is to be built in Harrisburg, Penn.

Foreign Theatricals.

Theatricals are dull in London, and all work is being pressed into the service of the Christmas pieces and holiday pantomimes.

Mr. H. WERTHEIMER, of this City, has been in treaty with Mlle. SAX, the great singer, for her to visit this country, but that very intelligent lady refuses to come unless Mr. WERTHEIMER will agree to pay her traveling expenses and those of two attendants to the United States by land, (*par terra.*) This is a fact.

MUZIO teaches in one of the Conservatories of Paris.

The Globe Theatre, which has been erected on the site of old Lyon's Inn, Strau, was announced to open on Nov. 28 with an entirely new and original comedy, founded on a story of every-day life, by H. J. BYRON, entitled "Cyril's Success."

Through the destruction by fire of the painting-room of Messrs. GRIEVE & TELBEN, the celebrated scenic artists of London, the great scenes for several christmas pieces, (some ready, some nearly finished,) have been totally destroyed also. The Prince's Theatre, Manchester, has lost two important scenes for its pantomime, and this is the more mortifying since they were finished two or three weeks ago and might have been fetched away. A drop curtain, painted by Mr. TELBEN for the new Globe Theatre, soon about to open, was consumed, and the Gaiety Theatre suffered a more serious loss in the whole, or nearly the whole of the scenery designed for an extravaganza of "Roberto." An elaborate Watteau scene, a view of Palermo, another of Pandemonium —which was to have been the great scenic hit of the piece—and the interior of a palace have disappeared in a shower of sparks and a cloud of smoke, as have many adjuncts in the shape of wings and borders required for the fitting of a new stage.

Miss CELIA LOGAN is about to bring out a new American drama at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

The new theatre in Florence, the Loggie, is just finished. This building is the property of several Venetian gentlemen, and has been designed and executed by Sig. SCALA, a Venetian architect of much taste. Between every two boxes of the first tier there arises from amidst a bouquet of fresh flowers a small, sparkling fountain, at once pleasing to the eye and refreshing from the feeling of coolness which it imparts. But another of the arrangements connected with the new theatre is much more practical and useful, and well deserves to be imitated in other countries. Every substance of an inflammable character employed in the construction or decoration of the theatre, whether wood, velvet, silk, canvas or cloth of any kind, has, before its employment, been first rendered completely non-inflammable. Those present at the private view had an opportunity of judging of the results by the setting fire to a large scene, of which one-half was prepared and the other half left in the usual condition. The latter was burnt to ashes; the former remained uninjured.

MAINE

Portland and its Mansard Roofs—Its Growth and Grasp for Trade—Future Prospects of the State—What It Might Have Been—A Kink in the Hangman's Rope.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, Dec. 5, 1868.

The stranger in Portland is impressed with the French appearance of the rebuilt portion of the city. The Mansard roof is all the go here among the architects. All the splendid new blocks have that style of roof. The impression given by the frequency of this imposing roof is pleasant to the eye, and the capacious and neat stores that lie under them, filled with goods, and customers from every section of the State, give the principal business portion of Portland an air of prosperity not often seen in a city of its class. It is no exaggeration to say that Portland is to-day the most prosperous city on the New-England coast. It has reached a point in its existence where it feels entirely independent, and no longer pays tribute to its big sister at the head of Massachusetts Bay. There was a time when the State of Maine went to Boston for its goods. Scarcely a country merchant ever thought of going to Portland for any considerable amount of goods. But the programme has changed now. Portland has its "drummers" as far north as under the shadow of Mount Katahdin, and as far east as where the sky looks Newfoundlandward. The International Commercial Convention held here last August was a bold bid for the freight trade of the West and of Canada; and the construction of a railroad to run across New-Hampshire and Vermont to Rutland, diagonally from Portland, is the avenue designed to bring Western produce to the wharves of Portland. The saving in transportation would be very material, and largely in favor of Portland over Boston. This route has recently been surveyed, and it would tap every connection in the States of New-Hampshire and Vermont now made with the roads leading to Boston. The eastern division of the road is already built and in running condition. The completion of the road is only a question of time; capital stock is being subscribed to it, and some of the most wide-awake and wealthiest business men in New-England are interested in it. While Portland is looking after great trunks of intercommunication, it is also stretching out its lines across the water. In addition to its regular lines of foreign steamers, a new line is to be added in a few months, composed of first-class steamers, to ply between Liverpool and Hamburg. The half-dozen new lines of local roads in the State now under contract, will, when finished, help to pour into the lap of Portland a measure of wealth, and bring it into close connection with important localities.

OPENING UP OF A NEW ERA.

It may be said that a new era is now opening up for the State of Maine. For many years it has remained dormant, perforce of the peculiar habits of its people. Once the building of ships, and the catching of fish, were the chief objects of the people. Years ago it was commonly accepted that its cold, forbidding climate would not admit of developing its resources—its immense water-power, its agricultural facilities, and its power to rise to a higher plane of importance in the sisterhood of progressive States. Coequal with Massachusetts, and once a part of its domain, Maine has, indeed, lagged in the great race of noble empire, until her sons and daughters are now among the vitalizing influences that erect new States and mould them into greatness. Had all this brain been retained at home and systematized in its development, making due allowance for drawbacks, Maine might to-day have pressed hard upon Massachusetts, and challenged her to competitive trial. But the Pine Tree State is making amends. An immense revenue lies within the fences of its farms, and along its rivers. She is waking up to her special, positive duties. She has a soil and capacity to bread her own people and all the New-England States besides. She has a water-power twenty times larger than that of Massachusetts. Vast quantities of wheat are grown hundreds of miles north of Maine; and it is certain that the State has impoverished itself to some extent, by paying at least $10,000,000 annually for breadstuffs the past five years, to Western wheat growers. The farmers of Maine need encouragement in this direction; and they can make it profitable to raise sheep if they secure the right breeds. The soils and pastures of Maine are peculiarly adapted to the Southdown breed. Lambs and mutton bear a good price, and wool is worth something. The Sprague purchase at Augusta may be said to be the commencement of a development of the water-power of Maine. In a measure, it prompted the recent survey of the water-powers of the State. Two years ago the City of Augusta purchased and presented to the Messrs. A. & W. SPRAGUE, of Providence, R. I., real estate on the Kennebec River worth $250,000, besides granting that firm, certain privileges in the way of exemption from taxation. The SPRAGUES are now making arrangements for erecting a factory which will cost half a million. Factories are also being erected in other portions of the State. New-York and Boston capitalists are investing money here, and it is hoped that the time is not far distant when the State will have its Lawrences and its Lowells for the surplus overflow of its population, which to no small extent now swarms the manufacturing places of Massachusetts and other States. Maine has the remedy of her evils in her own hands, and it can be best applied through a liberal policy of legislation, that shall induce her citizens to remain at home and learn to study State pride. Her people are so thoroughly cemented in the ground-work of Republican ideas, that they may be trusted with great schemes and the prompt discharge of their plighted faith.

EDUCATIONAL.

There is one thing which the State of Maine should apologize for; and that is for her imperfect system of common school education. It is a lamentable fact that less children now attend school than has been the case in past years. Perhaps the disturbed condition of the country during the late war has something to do with this sad state of things. The importance of giving every child in the State a common school education cannot be over-estimated. Maine has the money and brains to erect a school-house at every cross-road and to place a capable teacher in every school district.

A KINK IN THE ROPE.

A majority of the people of Maine seem to be squeamish on the subject of "suspending a man by the neck until he is dead." The proposed execution of HARRIS, the Auburn murderer of two old ladies, is attracting a good deal of attention in the State Press. Some time since Gov. CHAMBERLAIN issued his warrant for the execution of HARRIS on the 4th day of December, but there seems to be a difficulty in the way of executing the warrant, which was directed to Sheriff LAUGHTON, who has disappeared, and recently turned up in California. In consequence of this the execution has been postponed, and there is a legal question whether his deputies would be able to act as executioners. A section of the law prescribing the method of carrying such a sentence into effect, says the Sheriff of the county, and no other person, shall be the executioner. It is probable that the Legislature, upon reassembling, will remedy the difficulty, provided the Governor really intends that HARRIS shall be executed. A successor to LAUGHTON might be appointed. By the terms of the law, the sentence of HARRIS is already commuted to imprisonment for life, unless the Governor takes some action not anticipated by the framers of the law; and as it now stands it was designed to hold the death penalty *in terrorem* over the criminal for its supposed moral effect. Only once within the last twenty years has the death penalty been inflicted in Maine. The exception was that of SPENCER, whose neck was stretched in 1854, for the murder of the Warden of the State Prison. Most of the State Press are opposed to reviving the death penalty.

Portland is going to have a first-class opera house in the Spring. The lumber interest of this city is very large. In 1867 it imported 2 311,672 feet of lumber, and exported 14,215,928 feet. The amount of foreign lumber imported for the eleven months of 1868 is 8,123,867 feet. The receipts of flour during the past six months have been very heavy. L.

BRIEF NOTES.

The Boston Custom-house has just furnished a minister for a church in Laporte, Ind.

It is denied that the body of Mr. KILTON, of Dorchester, Mass., who disappeared at Canaan, N. H., on the 3d of November, has been found, bearing evidence of violence. Nothing has been heard from the man since he left Canaan.

A poor insane German escaped from the City Hospital, in St. Louis, on Tuesday night, while suffering from typhoid fever, and was frozen to death in the streets.

The convicts in the New-Hampshire State Prison are having a course of lectures this Winter. They complain because they are not permitted to step out when they do not like the lecturer.

A man in Gloucester, Mass., claims to have invented and patented an article soluble in water, which has the peculiar property of keeping fish, meat, poultry, &c., perfectly fresh for any length of time.

All the Marblehead fishing fleet have arrived home. They have been successful this year, and more vessels are to be built.

The Bridgeport *Republican Standard* has been enlarged, and is now the largest paper in Connecticut. It has long been one of the best.

The St. Paul *Press* announces that the banking-house of J. P. VOSWINKEL & DORSELEN, of Winona, Minn., suspended on the 7th inst. Liabilities $25,000; assets $13,500. The principal depositors are comparatively poor men.

Gov. BOWIE, of Maryland, who was elected over a year ago, will be inaugurated on Wednesday, Jan. 13. THOMAS SWANN, the present Governor, has been elected to Congress.

Boston is to have, by vote of its Common Council, frequent free concerts of vocal and instrumental music in the Music Hall during the months of December, January and February. Citizens representing $14,000,000 of property petitioned for the same.

GEORGE BATCHELDER, who for twenty-six years has been Treasurer of the Town of Reading, Mass., died suddenly in his office on Wednesday.

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Central New-York, have unanimously recommended the acting Bishop of the Diocese to call a Special Convention, not later than the 15th of January, for the purpose of electing a Bishop in place of Rev. Dr. LITTLEJOHN, declined.

Thirteen persons charged with murder were before the Philadelphia Court of Oyer and Terminer on Thursday, seven of them being boys under 19 years of age.

A Boston lady of wealth who recently saw a man working a horse with a large and bleeding wound on his back, ordered her coachman to follow him, and having learned the teamster's name, caused a complaint to be made in the City Court, and testified against him. The man was fined $30.

The heirs of ANNEKE JANS held a meeting in Philadelphia on Thursday to raise money to prosecute their claims upon property in New-York. The meeting, after much talk, resulted in an adjournment *sine die.*

A six-story brick block on Pearl-street, Boston, known as the Board and Shoe Exchange, was sold for $200,000 on Thursday. The block occupies three sides of a square—154 feet on Pearl-street, 90 feet on Purchase-street, and 109½ feet on Broad-street.

The Chicago *Tribune* makes merry over the President's plan to compel the bondholders to pay the public debt.

A Cincinnati paper announces that ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS has been invited to accept the professorship or "Belle Letter" in a Southern college.

A range exploded in a kitchen in St. Louis on Wednesday morning, scattering coals, ashes and steam through the room. The cook's clothing was set on fire, and she narrowly escaped being burned alive.

A gentleman who loaned his horse and carriage to a young lady in Northern Vermont, was soon after officially informed that his team had been seized by the Custom-house officials on the ground that the young lady had crossed to Canada and smuggled over $6 worth of goods.

Prof. ELI T. TAPPAN, of the Ohio University, at Athens, has been elected President of Kenyon College.

Gen. N. B. FORREST has received from friends as a present a fine team of horses, for his efforts in behalf of the Memphis and Selma Railroad project.

Atlanta, Ga., rejoices that it is now but sixty hours from New-York.

Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, of Boston, will preach the opening sermon at the fifth session of the "Conference of Unitarian and other Christian Churches of the Middle and Southern States," which is to be held in Wilmington, Del., on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 16 and 17.

A colossal bronze statue of the late Bishop BROWNELL, designed by RANDOLPH ROGERS, and intended as a gift to Trinity College, has reached Hartford from Munich.

By a recent State law bankers in Ohio are compelled to stamp worthless bills that come into their hands, under penalty of a fine from $50 to $100. There is also a penalty provided for stamping a genuine note.

As officially declared, the vote of Tennessee for President was as follows: GRANT, 55,068; SEYMOUR, 26,922. GRANT's majority, 28,146. Three counties did not send in their returns. The Democratic vote has been increased 4,734 since the election for Governor; the Republican vote has fallen off 19,416.

Boston and Worcester, Mass., elect their Mayors and other city officers to-morrow.

The Penobscot River was closed by ice on the 10th inst., and Bangor is left out in the cold.

The uniform of the Cornell University students is to consist of a dark gray frock coat with University gilt buttons, gray vest without collar, and pantaloons of same cloth, with blue welt down the sides. The caps will be dark blue, with gilt wreaths, containing monogram "C. V. C," in gilt and silver, and the cloak dark officer's blue, lined with crimson, and cut after the Spanish pattern.

One of the most popular men in the benevolent orders in North Carolina is Gen. ROBERT B. VANCE. He is Grand Master of Masons, President of the State Council Friends of Temperance, and Past Grand of the Order of Independent Odd Fellows.

A romantic little story comes from Tennessee. It tells how a young lady, belonging to a prominent family in Maury County, ten years ago discarded the man she loved and married another at the instance of her friends. Two years later she obtained a divorce and married her first love. Him meeting and her second husband was killed, and on Thursday night last she was again united to her first.

Attorney-General EVARTS has found the title to League Island satisfactory, and the Island will be formally transferred to the United States by the authorities of Philadelphia, early this week.

The Milwaukee ship-captain who recently brutally assaulted his wife has been fined in the enormous sum of $25. The palliating circumstance was that both parties were drunk.

A Troy lawyer has just given $200 for a pointer dog, although dogs are plenty and game is scarce in that vicinity.

There were 256 deaths in Philadelphia last week, an increase of 58 over the corresponding week last year.

A paper in Winona, Minn., makes the horrifying announcement that an emissary of BRIGHAM YOUNG is in that city, endeavoring to entice young women to go to Utah. It says he is a man of pleasing address, but the sooner he makes tracks from that quarter the better—whether for himself for for the young ladies it does not explain.

Dr. MATHER WILLIAMS, who died recently in Syracuse, bequeathed $5,000 to "The Home," $4 000 to the Onondaga County Orphan Asylum, $3,000 to St. Vincent de Paul Orphan Asylum, and $10,000 to his housekeeper.

Personal.

The prominent arrivals at the principal hotels in the City yesterday were as follows: Senator Cole, of Washington, is at the Astor House. Gen. E. M. Whitaker, of Hartford; Hon. M. Hale, of Elizabethtown; Hon. C. J. Folger, of Geneva; Hon. F. Pearson, of Philadelphia; Hon. S. R. Walrant, of Newark; Hon. J. S. Van Pelten, of Fairfield, and Hon. R. Crowley, of Lockport, are at the Metropolitan Hotel. Hon. Thomas M. Pomeroy, of Auburn, and Hon. W. Ballard, of Ohio, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Gen. H. W. Mercer, of Savannah, and Hon. E. O. Haile, of New-Orleans, are at the Irving House. Hon. Ira Goodnow, of Washington, and Hon. Jas. E. Kelley, of Croton Falls, are at the St. James Hotel. Hon. Thomas H. Canfield, of Vermont; George Peabody Russell, of Salem; Hon. H. D. Newcomb of Louisville, and Hon. J. F. Rawson, of Maine, are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel. Hon. E. L. Boudinot, of Philadelphia, is at the Brevoort House.

The Great Fire in Philadelphia.
HERRING'S PATENT SAFES
AGAIN THE CHAMPION!
THE ONLY SAFE THAT PRESERVES ITS CONTENTS UNCHARRED.
LETTER FROM T. MORRIS PEROT & CO.
PHILADELPHIA, Twelfth Month, 8th, 1868.
Messrs. Farrel, Herring & Co. No. 629 Chestnut-st.:
GENTS: It is with great pleasure that we add our testimony to the value of your Patent Champion Safe. At the destructive fire on Market-st., on the evening of the 5d inst., our store was the centre of the conflagration, and, being filled with a large stock of drugs, oils, turpentine, paints, varnish, alcohol, &c., made a severe and trying test. Your safe stood in an exposed situation, and fell with the burning floors into the cellar, among a quantity of combustible materials. We opened it next day, and found our books, papers, bank notes, bills receivable, and entire contents all safe. It is especially gratifying to us that your safe came out all right, as we had intrusted our most valuable books to it. We shall want another of your safes in a few days, as they have our entire confidence.
Yours respectfully,
T. MORRIS PEROT & CO.

Herring's Patent Champion Safes, the victors in more than 300 accidental fires. Awarded the Prize Medals at the World's Fair, London; World's Fair, New-York, and Exposition Universelle, Paris.
Manufactured and for sale by
HERRING, FARREL & SHERMAN,
No. 251 Broadway, corner Murray-st., New-York.
FARREL, HERRING & CO., Philadelphia.
HERRING & CO., Chicago.
HERRING, FARREL & SHERMAN, New-Orleans.
—*Advertisement.*

Recipe for Making Home Happy.
Let Paterfamilias call at No. 6 Burling-slip, foot of John-st., and purchase of the LUCIUS HART MANUFACTURING COMPANY one of their elegant Tea Sets, Coffee Urns, Ice Pitchers, or numerous other articles, of the best quality, got up expressly for the HOLIDAYS for family use, and then'll be "love at home" all the year round.—*Advertisement.*

Bouche, Fils & Co.'s Dry Verdeau.
Bouche, Fils & Co.'s Cabinet.
Bouche, Fils & Co.'s Carte Blanche.—*Advertisement.*

Use the Automatic Clothes Washer and Boiler. Dispenses with labor and wear of clothes. Send stamp for circular. Depot No. 19 Cortlandt-st., New-York.—*Advertisement.*

We would call Attention to the Sale of Holiday Goods to be sold at auction on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Dec. 16 and 17, at 10½ o'clock each day, at the salesroom No. 93 Liberty-st., being the stock of Le Petite Mason de Mercveille, and removed to our salesroom for convenience of sale.
HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER, Auctioneers,
No. 93 Liberty-st.

A Most Suitable Holiday Present to a smoker is unquestionably a genuine MEERSCHAUM, which POLLAK & SON sell at manufacturers' prices at their stores, No. 495 Broadway, corner Prince-st., and No. 27 John-st., middle of block. Also repairing. Remember, these are no cigar or corner stores.

Do you want a timekeeper! If so, ask your watchmaker for a Bunel and Convoyeur Nickel Watch; Prize Medal awarded at London, Paris and Swiss Expositions, for best performance. QUINCHE & KRUGLER, Nos. 8 and 10 John-st., (up stairs,) only wholesale agents for the manufacturers.

A.—Wanted—A first-class cutter on Gentlemen's custom work. Address Post Office Box No. 3,503, New-York, for three days.

Hair Dye, Hair Dye, Hair Dye. The genuine W. A. BATCHELOR'S Hair Dye is the best in the world—the only perfect dye—harmless, reliable, instantaneous, black or brown. Sold everywhere, and properly applied at BATCHELOR'S Wig Factory, 16 Bond, N.Y.

MARRIED.

BYRON—CURTISS.—On Thursday, Dec. 10, at the residence of the bride's parents, Tarrytown, by Rev. Wm. H. Wines, WALTER BYRON, of New-York City, to FANNIE S., only daughter of C. Curtiss, Esq.

STACEY—SLOSSON.—On Thursday, Dec. 10, at Aubrey Farm, near Geneva, N. Y., by Rev. James Rankine, D. D., AGNES BEVAN, youngest daughter of the late James G. Stacey, to HENRY LAWRENCE SLOSSON, U. S. N.

WOOD—COLGATE.—On Thursday evening, Dec. 10, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. Edward Latrop, D. D., JOHN D. WOOD to ALICE RIGGS, daughter of Robert Colgate, both of this City.

DIED.

ASPINWALL.—At Torquay, England, on Wednesday, Nov. 25, WILLIAM H. ASPINWALL, Jr., eldest son of John L. Aspinwall, of Barrytown, N. Y., in the 19th year of his age.

The funeral services will be held at the Church of the Ascension, 5th-av., on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

CRAIGE.—At her residence, No. 69 Catherine-st., on Saturday, Dec. 12, at noon, JULIET C., the beloved wife of William H. Craige, and second daughter of the late E. L. Williams, merchant, of this City.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, on Monday, the 14th inst., at 2 P. M.

CHAPIN.—In Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 11, MARY WINTHROP, wife of Luther Chapin.

Her relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, Portland-av., fifth house from De Kalb, on Monday, Dec. 14, at 2½ o'clock.

DUNN.—At Yorkville, on Saturday, Dec. 12, WM. C. DUNN, in the 55th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at 10 o'clock, from his late residence, 86th-st., between 2d and 3d avs.

EMMETT.—On Thursday, Dec. 10, Mrs. REBECCA EMMETT, (mother of Robert and W. H.,) aged 70 years.

MILLER.—Suddenly, of apoplexy, on Thursday, Dec. 10, 1868, at his residence, No. 141 Wooster-st., JOSEPH HART MILLER, aged 30 years, eldest son of John E. Miller, of this City.

RYNDERS.—On Friday, Dec. 11, ELIZABETH G., daughter of the late Hugh Rynders, aged 39 years and 16 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 27 Amity-st., this (Sunday) afternoon at 3 o'clock.

WIGHT.—On Friday night, Dec. 11, T. ROWLAND WIGHT, elder son of Louisa R. and Thomas P. Wight, aged 14 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral ceremonies at the residence of his uncle, A. Foster Higgins, No. 236 4th-av., this day, (Sunday,) the 13th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A A A CARD. A A A

To U. S. Fire Extinguisher Company, No. 8 Dey-st., New-York:
GENTLEMEN: THE EXTINGUISHER HAS SPOKEN FOR ITSELF once more. About 10 o'clock yesterday morning FIRE was discovered in the cotton, in the picker-room. We had at the time fifteen bales opened on the floor, and a large quinty spread out. The alarm was carried down stairs, and the copper tender tried the virtue of a pail of water, BUT TO NO EFFECT. The overseer rushed in with an EXTINGUISHER, and found the room full of fire from floor to ceiling. Turning on the stream, the effect was magical —THE FIRE DEADENED RIGHT DOWN. We had the fire put out before the engines arrived.
JEFFERSON BORDEN, Jr.,
Agent Mount Hope Mill.
FRENCH'S HOTEL, Dec. 10, 1868.
It affords me much pleasure to testify to the excellent qualities of your Fire Extinguisher, having used it with entire satisfaction at the recent fire at my premises, without the use of which the conflagration might have been very serious.
Respectfully yours,
R. FRENCH.
To the U. S. Fire Extinguisher Company No. 8 Dey-st., New-York.
NO BUILDING SAFE WITHOUT A FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—THE MAILS FOR Europe will be dispatched from this office on TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, closing at 12 o'clock M., and at Stations A and B, 11:30; C, O and D, 11.30; E and F, 11:0, and G at 11 o'clock A. M.
Also, on WEDNESDAY notice of the hour of closing, which will be posted at the general office, and the stations on TUESDAY, P. M.
JAMES KELLY, Postmaster.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT
OF PARIS FANCY GOODS,
FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
GLOVE, JEWEL AND HANDKERCHIEF BOXES,
BISQUE STATUARY, ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS,
JARDINIERES, CARD STANDS, &c. &c.
BOHEMIAN DESSERT SETS, TOILET WARE, &c.,
IN ROSE, WHITE AND GREEN.
REAL BRONZE
CLOCKS, MANTEL SETS, GROUPS AND STATUETTES,
JUST OPENED.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—Dec. 12, 1868.

$22,500 U. S. 6s, 5-20 C., '64 ..... 110½
2,000 U. S. 6s, 5-20 C., '64 107
3,000 U. S. 6s, 5-20 C., '65 ..... 107⅜
15,000 U. S. 5-20 C., '65, new 110
120,000 U.S. 5-20 C., '65 110
25,000 do 110
30,000 do 110
40,000 U. S. 6s, 10-40, R. 108½
30,000 do 108⅝
25,000 U.S. 6s, 10-40 C. 108⅝
25,000 do 108⅝
5,000 Tenn. St. 6s, new 67⅜
15,000 do 68
30,000 Tenn. St. 6s, new 67⅜
15,000 Va. St. 6s, ex c. 55
3,000 Virginia 6s, new. 57½
2,500 Georgia St. 6s 80
5,000 N. Car. St. 6s 60
4,000 N. Car. 6s, new. 61¼
1,000 Missouri St. 6s 89½
2,000 do 89½
$60 N.Y. Cent. 6s, '83 92
3,000 Erie 2d M., '79 .. 98
5,000 Erie 3d M. 92
5,000 do ..... 2d call 92
1,000 Erie 4th M. 87
3,000 Del. L. & W. 1st 98
2,000 Del. L. & W. 2d 98
1,000 C., R. I. & P. R. R. 7s 97⅜
6,000 P., F. W. & C. 1st 103
1,000 P., Ft. W. & C. 2d 93½
4,000 Am. Dock & Im. Co. 7s 98
6,000 St. L. & Iron M. 1st M. bds.. 98
2,000 C., C. & I.C. 1st.. 79½
3,000 do 79⅝
2,000 M. & St. P. 8s 1st .. 74½

SECOND BOARD—12½ P. M.

$20,000 U. S. 6s, '81, R.. 108⅝
11,000 do 108⅝
8,000 5-20 C., '62 ..... 111⅜
1,000 5-20 C., '65 ..... 107⅛
26,000 do 107⅛
2,000 U. S. 6s, 5-20 R., '67 ..... 105⅞
5,000 U. S. 5-20 C, '64.. 107
6,000 5-20s, C., '67 110
10,000 do 110
12,000 5-20 C., '68 ..... 110⅝
10,000 do 110⅝
5,000 U.S.6s,10-40, C.... 108⅝
1,000 do 108⅝

OPEN BOARD—10 A. M.

100 Mer. Un. Ex 15⅞
100 Canton Co 47
200 Pacific Mail 113⅝
20 Adams Ex 49
100 N. Y. Cen. 93
100 do 93⅛
200 Erie 39⅝
200 do 39⅝
100 Hudson R. 124
100 Reading 95⅞
200 T., W. & W 55⅛
100 Mil. & St. P. 63¼
100 Mil. & St. P. Pf. 82
150 do 83⅛
100 do 83½

OPEN BOARD—1 P. M.

100 Mer. Un. Ex 15⅞
100 Canton Co 47
200 Pacific Mail 113⅝
20 Adams Ex 49
100 U. S. Ex 46
100 Q. M. Co 21¼
100 Canton Co 47¼
200 Pac. Mail 113⅝
50 do 113⅝
500 N. Y. Central 93⅛
600 Erie 39⅝
100 Erie Pf 59
100 Hudson R 124⅝
200 do 83
200 T., W. & W 55⅛
100 Mil. & St. P. 63¼
100 do 63½
100 do 63½

SATURDAY, Dec. 12—P. M.

The Sales of Gold were steady through the day at 135¼@135¼ ₱ cent., and late in the day 135⅛ ₱ cent. The market not strong, nor yet very weak; opinions being about equally divided as to the course of prices hence to the New Year; while the free supply of the Cash Gold and the interest paid to carry over balances are rather against the operators for the rise, independent of the large amount of Gold Interest to come out of the Treasury on the first of January. The rates of Interest to carry Gold are 5@6 ₱ cent., as between the Brokers themselves, and 6@7 ₱ cent. on call loans from the Bankers, with Gold Certificates in pledge. The Banks gain $1,496,514 in Gold on the averages of the week, and lose $5,476,611 in Greenbacks and Greenback Certificates. Of this last amount the South and West have taken the largest share, while the remainder has gone into the Sub-Treasury. The Treasury Office here, now holds about $18,000,000 in Greenback and National Bank Note Currency. The large Banks in correspondence with the interior Banks, are believed to have discounted the collection paper of the latter quite freely. The aggregate Loans and Discounts are up $3,868,239 from last Monday. The general line of Deposits $506,402 less than on the previous Statement, showing that more than the whole proceeds of the new Loans and Discounts have gone to the country, or into the Treasury for country account. The Treasury received during the week $1,490,000 in Gold for Customs, and paid out $509,000 for Gold Interest. The receipts of Gold and Gold and Silver bars from California are $225,208, and the shipments of Gold and Silver to Europe $483,320.

There was less demand for Money than on Thursday and Friday, though the rate was kept up to 7 ₱ cent. Before the Bank Statement in the Afternoon, the Public Funds were a fraction firmer than on Friday, but at the close of business the sellers of 5-20s were disposed to make contracts for next week at a concession of ⅛@¼ ₱ cent. from the best sales of the morning. In the Railways the speculation was again weaker in the Western Roads, and also in Reading, while the movement in New-York Central was 124@123¾@124@124¼@123¾ ₱ cent.

As usual on Saturday, no Boards were held at the Stock Exchange after 1 o'clock P. M. The following quotations were made in the Long Room and on the Street about 4 o'clock P. M. Exchange on London closed 109¼@109⅝ for 60 days, and 110⅛ for short sight. Gold weak. In Erie the transactions were higher on a reported demand from London:

	Friday.	Saturday.
United States 10-40s	105⅞	105⅞
United States 5-20s of 1862	110⅛	110⅛
United States 5-20s of 1867	110	110
American Gold Coin	135⅛	135⅛
Bills on London, 60 days	109⅛	109⅛
New Bonds of Tennessee	67⅛	67⅛
Virginia Bonds, old	55	55
Missouri Bonds	89	89½
North Carolina Bonds, old	64⅛	64
New-York Central	124⅛	124⅛
Erie Railway	39¼	40⅛
Reading Railway	97	96½
Chicago and Rock Island	106	106⅛
Northwest Common	75⅛	75
Northwest Preferred	77¼	76
Michigan Southern	85⅛	85⅛
Pittsburg and Ft. Wayne	109¼	109⅜
Cleveland and Pittsburg	82¼	82
Pacific Mail Company	113⅛	113
St. Paul Preferred	82¼	81⅞
St. Paul Common	63¼	62⅛
Toledo and Wabash	55⅞	55⅛

The following bids were made for the various Public Funds of the United States at the close of business:

6 ₱ cent. reg., 1881	109½
6 ₱ cent. coup., 1881	114⅝
5-20 reg., 1862	106⅜
5-20 500 & 1,000, 1862	110⅝
5-20 500 & 1,000, 1864	106⅝
5-20 500 & 1,000, 1865	107⅝
5-20 coupon '65 n. is	110
5-20 coupon 1867	110
5-20 coupon 1868	110⅛
5 ₱ cent. reg., 1871	106
5 ₱ cent. coup., 1871	124
10-40 reg	103⅛
10-40 500 & 1,000	103⅝
6s Currency	96½

And the following for the State Bonds:

N. Y. Sec. 7 ₱ Loan	108
N. Y. Comp. 7 ₱ Loan	110
N. Y. 7 ₱ c. Canal, 1870	101¼
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1872	108
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1873	109
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1874	109
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1875	109
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1877	109
N. Y. 6 ₱ c. Canal, 1878	109
Illinois 6s, coup. 1879	102
Illinois 6s, coup. 1880	101¾
Illinois 6s, c. '79 aft. 1865	103
Ill. 6s, coup. '79 aft. 1870	102
Illinois coupon 6s, 1877	102
Illinois coupon, 6s, 1879	103
Illinois War Loan	102
Indiana 5 ₱ c	95
Michigan 6 ₱ c. 1873	100
Penn. 6 ₱ c. ex c	98
Tennessee 6 ₱ c. n. bds	67½
Virginia 6s, ex c	55
Virginia 6s, n. bds	57½
Georgia 7s, n. bds	93
South Carolina 6s	63½
N. C. 6s, new bonds	61
Missouri 6s	89½
Louisiana 6s, '86	68½
California 7s	103
Cal. 7s, large bonds	103
Connecticut 6s	103
Rhode Island 6s	103

And the following for the City Bank Stocks:

New-York	140	Continental	103
Merchants'	124	St. Nicholas	108
America	147	Marine	150
Phenix	108	Imp'rs. & Traders'	133
State of New-York	111	Park	153
Commerce	124	Man. & Merchants'	103
Mechanics' B'k Ass	117	Central National	110
Ocean	110	First National	215
Bank of the Republic	121	Fourth National	105¾
Bank of N. America	112	Ninth National	112
Metropolitan	146	Tenth National	100
Shoe and Leather	121		

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s, 1883	91	Del. L. & W. 2d M	96
N. Y. Cen. 6s, 1887	92	Fol. & W. 1st M. Ext'd.	91¾
N. Y. Cen. 6s, R. Est.,	96	St. Western 1st M.	69
St. Western 1st M.	69		

FINANCIAL.

HATCH, FOOTE & CO.

BANKERS,

AND DEALERS IN

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD, STOCKS, &c.

Buy and Sell all issues of

U. S. BONDS

at MARKET RATES.

No. 12 Wall-st., New-York.

FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS OF THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC RAILROAD.

PRINCIPAL AND SEVEN PER CENT. INTEREST PAYABLE IN GOLD AT THE NATIONAL PARK BANK, NEW-YORK.

COUPONS PAID JANUARY AND JULY.

The Road is completed from the waters of the Bay of San Francisco to Sacramento, and fully equipped with first-class rolling stock. The net receipts are more than three times the interest on the whole issue of bonds. We believe them to be one of the best investments offered. A limited amount for sale at par and accrued interest, in currency.

TURNER BROTHERS, Bankers, No. 14 Nassau-st.

BOWLES BROTHERS & CO.,

BANKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS

NO. 12 RUE DE LA PAIX, PARIS,

No. 13 William-st., New-York,

No. 76 State-st. Boston.

Make advances on American securities and cash coupons on demand. Bills on the United States or England bought and sold. Circular credits cashed. Letters for Americans in Europe addressed to our care will be forwarded or delivered.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.

NO. 59 WALL-ST.,

ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD.

AUGUST BELMONT & CO,

Issue Letters of Credit, for Travelers' use, on MESSRS. ROTHSCHILD, in Paris, London, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Vienna, and their correspondents in all principal cities of Europe; also, make Telegraphic transfers on CALIFORNIA AND EUROPE.

PACIFIC RAILROAD OF MISSOURI.

SIX PER CENT. twenty-year gold bonds, principal and interest payable in gold, one of the safest and most profitable investment securities in market, constituting a first lien on the above important trunk road, already fully completed, with earnings nearly double sufficient for its entire interest account. For sale by

SCHUYLER SKAATS & BROTHER, Bankers, No. 19 Broad-st.

TENTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1868.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking-house, No. 23 Broad-st., corner Exchange-place, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1869, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 o'clock P. M.

J. H. STOUT, Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1868.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the Banking-room on TUESDAY, 12th of January next, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

O. H. SCHREINER, Cashier.

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1868.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house, Broadway and Chambers-st., on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1869, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

J. M. CRANE, Cashier.

UNITED STATES TREASURY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 7, 1868.

SCHEDULES OF COUPONS of 5-20 BONDS, due Jan. 1, 1869, will now be received for examination at the United States Treasury.

H. H. VAN DYCK, Assistant Treasurer.

SAVINGS BANKS.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,

CHATHAM-SQUARE, NEW-YORK.

DEPOSITS MADE NOW DRAW INTEREST FROM JAN. 1.

Six per cent. interest, free from tax, allowed on all sums from $1 to $5,000.

HARRISON HALL, President.

C. D. BAILEY, Treasurer.

JOSEPH P. COOPER, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,

NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK.

SIX PER CENT. interest allowed on all sums from $1 to $5,000, free from Government tax.

Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.

WALTER W. CONKLIN, President.

VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

All money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

THIRD-AV. SAVINGS BANK,

CORNER 3D-AV. AND 26TH-ST.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST paid, free from Government tax, on all sums from $1 to $5,000.

Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS, from 6 to 8 o'clock.

DRY DOCK SAVINGS BANK.

Nos. 341 and 343 East 4th-st.

Interest allowed on deposits made on Jan. 7, 1869.

Six per cent. per annum on sums of $1,000 and under; five per cent. per annum on sums over $1,000.

ANDREW MILLS, President.

Nov. 1, 1868. JAS. L. STEWART, Secretary.

CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK,

Southwest corner of Bowery and Canal-st., N. Y.

SIX PER CENT. interest paid, free of Government tax, on all sums from $1 to 5,000 dollars. Open every day from 10 to 3, and in the evenings of Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 6 to 7.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST ON $5 TO $5,000 paid by UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK,

Nos. 336 and 338 Bowery, corner of Bleecker-st.

Assets, $5,450,251 34.

DIVIDENDS.

DRY DOCK SAVINGS BANK.

Nos. 341 and 343 East 4th-st.

On the 1st of January, 1869, an extra dividend of two per cent. for six months, and one per cent. for three months, will be paid to depositors entitled thereto.

ANDREW MILLS, President.

JAMES L. STEWART, Secretary.

NOV. 1, 1868.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN RAILWAY CO., No. 52 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Nov. 20, 1868.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS COMPANY have declared a dividend of Five (5) per cent. on the Capital Stock of this Company, free of Government tax, payable on and after the 26th day of December next, to the stockholders, as shown by the books of the Company, on the 1st day of December next.

The Transfer Books of the Preferred and Common Stocks will be closed on SATURDAY, the 5th day of December next, and reopened on SATURDAY, the 26th day of December next.

By order of the Board of Directors

WM. BUTTERFIELD, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE CLEVELAND AND TOLEDO RAILROAD COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 5, 1868.

A DIVIDEND OF FOUR and ONE-HALF (4½) Per Cent.—free from United States Government tax—will be paid to the stockholders of this Company, or to their legal representatives, on the 2d day of January next, at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in the city of New-York.

The transfer-books will be closed at 2 o'clock P. M. of Saturday, 19th December instant, and reopened on the morning of Monday, 4th January, 1869.

WM. F. BEAUTON, Secretary.

UNION NATIONAL BANK, RECEIVER'S OFFICE, No. 66 Cedar-st.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.—A DIVIDEND of thirty per cent. upon claims against this bank, which have been proved and allowed, will be paid on and after SATURDAY, Dec. 12, 1868, at the office, No. 66 Cedar-st. By order of the Comptroller of the Currency.

C. P. BAILEY, Receiver.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

A LADY OF UNEXCEPTIONABLE CHARacter and respectability, who has been recently reduced in circumstances, desires to make an arrangement where her services in taking the charge of growing children, or as companion to an invalid, will secure her a moderate compensation, and the comforts of a home. Apply Monday and Tuesday, between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock A. M., at No. 12 East 23d-st.

WANTED—BY AN EXPERIENCED LAUNdress a family's or gentleman's washing; understands fine washing and ironing; or will go out by the day or week; good City reference as to capability. Call or address Mrs. BALLARD, No. 241 West 23d-st., Room No. 6, rear.

WANTED—BY A LADY, WRITING OR copying, law or mercantile, or as a visiting governess; can teach English and French. Address MISS L. LAWRENCE, Box No. 106 *Times* Office.

WANTED—BY A GERMAN GIRL, A SITUAtion to do general housework, or as cook, washer and ironer; best of references. Apply at No. 17 Stanton-st., near Bowery.

WANTED—A LADY WISHES A SITUATION for a cook. Apply at No. 39 West 19th-st., between 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A GOOD German girl to do general housework. Call at No. 102 2d-st., first floor, between Avenues A and B.

MALES.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS GARDENER BY a single man; understands the management of graperies and green-house, growing fruit and vegetables. Address GARDENER, at seed store No. 376 Broadway.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS COACHMAN BY a first-class experienced first-class man, (German;) married; no incumbrance; City references. Address MARTIN, No. 322 West 36th-st.

CLERKS AND SALESMEN.

WANTED—BY A YOUNG MAN, A SITUATION in some wholesale house; salary not so much an object as a place where improvement can be made. Address C., Box No. 123 *Times* Office.

A MANAGING CLERKSHIP IN A LAW office wanted by an attorney, admitted two years. Address L.B.X., Box No. 4,925 Post Office.

HELP WANTED.

CLERK WANTED—EXPERIENCED IN THE business, to take charge of a retail toy store; also several assistant salesmen. Wm. W. ROSE, No. 3 Union-sq.

Report of Specie exported from the Port of New-York for the week ending Dec. 12, 1868:

Dec. 8. Steamship Bornussia, London—Gold Bars	$3,400
Dec. 10. Steamship Deutschland, Bremen—Foreign Silver	6,280
Dec. 10. Steamship Deutschland, Southampton—Silver Bars	142,233
Dec. 10. Steamship Deutschland, Southampton—Mexican Dollars	5,427
Dec. 12. Steamship City of Antwerp, Liverpool—British Sovereigns	5,000
Dec. 12. Steamship Pereire, Havre—Gold Bars	250,550
Dec. 12. Steamship Pereire, Havre—Silver Bars	36,800
Dec. 12. Steamship Pereire, Havre—Foreign Gold	21,000
Dec. 10. Steamship Pereire, Havre—Foreign Silver	32,650
Total	$483,320

The return from the Bank of England for the week ending the 25th of November, gives the following results when compared with the previous week:

Rest	£3,094,533 Increase..	£3,076
Public deposits	5,427,596 Increase..	397,067
Other deposits	18,103,008 Decrease..	699,559
Govern't Securities	15,074,874 Decrease..	226,563
Other Securities	16,662,179 Increase..	1,711,712
Notes unemployed	5,894,100 Increase..	180,580

The amount of notes in circulation is £23,243,255, being a decrease of £245,845; and the stock of bullion in both departments is £18,256,637, showing a decrease of £100,022, when compared with the preceding return.

Subjoined is a comparison of the present position of the Bank of England and the price of Consols and French Rentes with the corresponding week of last year:

	At Present.	Same Week Last Year.
Bullion	£18,256,637	£22,058,568
Reserve	10,013,382	13,507,208
Notes in circulation	23,243,255	23,551,360
Rate of discount	3½ ₱ cent.	2 ₱ cent.
Consols	94⅛	94⅝
French Rentes	71f. 85c.	68f. 75c.

The Paris *Moniteur* of Nov. 26 publishes the following official returns of the Bank of France:

	Nov. 19. Francs.	Nov. 26. Francs.
Capital of the bank	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition	7,044,776	7,044,776
Reserve	23,305,780	22,105,780
Landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000
Notes in circulation	1,279,270,350	1,268,607,100
Bank notes to order	33,145,930	33,394,670
Treasury accounts	174,277,179	176,097,423
Current accounts	280,103,929	284,563,492
Current branch banks	43,703,100	47,664,522
Dividends payable	867,215	826,900
Discounts	6,367,224	6,644,670
Rediscounted	708,152	709,152
Sundries	9,750,397	9,100,500
Total	2,043,853,062	2,043,134,957
Cash in hand	1,162,665,670	1,155,627,887
Commercial bills overdue	177,525	757,161
Commercial, not yet due	236,726,702	237,170,366
Commercial, branch banks	228,967,845	284,067,708
Advances on bullion	38,295,700	38,519,600
Branch banks	8,820,900	8,191,000
French public securities	12,891,200	12,304,800
Branch banks	7,767,700	7,707,600
On railway shares, &c	36,605,300	36,463,800
By the branch banks	28,599,400	28,325,900
On Credit Foncier	922,000	912,800
Branches	908,500	917,900
To the State	60,000,000	60,000,000
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750
Government disposable	80,633,437	80,633,437
Rentes immobilees	100,000,000	100,000,000
Hotel and furniture	9,074,499	9,101,947
Expenses of management	2,201,286	2,475,517
Sundries	15,566,647	16,827,083
Total	2,043,853,062	2,043,134,957

The day's business at the office of the United States Assistant Treasurer was as follows: Total receipts, $901,005 29; total payments, $378,958 80; balance, $91,091,980 21. The receipts include for Customs, $229,000; for Gold Notes, $202,000.

The aggregate amount of Imports (other than Dry Goods and Specie) at the port of New-York from foreign ports for the week ending Dec. 11, 1868, was $2,171,735.

The Detroit *Advertiser* of Dec. 10 publishes the following official exhibit of the business of the Michigan State Treasury for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30:

TREASURER OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN IN ACCOUNT WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, NOV. 30, 1868.

Debit.

To balance Nov. 30, 1867	$582,113 96
To receipts on account of General Fund	1,347,521 51
To receipts on account of Primary School Fund	115,386 63
To receipts on account of Primary School Interest Fund	54,000 70
To receipts on account of Swamp Land Fund	425,324 84
To receipts on account of Swamp Land Interest Fund	6,079 06
To receipts on account of University Fund	8,114 97
To receipts on account of University Interest Fund	10,369 45
To receipts on account of Normal School Fund	760 00
To receipts on account of Normal School Interest Fund	1,887 28
To receipts on account of Asylum Fund	3,548 03
To receipts on account of State Building Fund	418 99
To receipts on account of Internal Improvement Fund	11,433 26
To receipts on account of Ayr College Fund	2,300 00
To receipts on account of War Fund	25,000 00
To receipts on account of Sault St. Marie Canal Fund	14,449 67
To receipts on Light-house Deposits	15 00
To receipts on account of Suspense Account	7,903 48
To receipts on account of Two Million Loan Sinking Fund	313 75
To receipts on account of War Loan Sinking Fund	188,900 85
Total	$2,804,741 43

Credit.

By warrants paid on account of General Fund	$510,832 65
By warrants paid on account of Primary School Fund	3,308 90
By warrants paid on account of Primary School Interest Fund	153,296 70
By warrants paid on account of Swamp Land Fund	362,613 33
By warrants paid on account of Swamp Land Interest Fund	401 99
By warrants paid on account of University Interest Fund	127,726 25
By warrants paid on account of War Loan Sinking Fund	43,500 00
By warrants paid on account of Two Million Sinking Fund	108,000 00
By warrants paid on account of Sault St. Marie Canal Fund	21,774 52
By warrants paid on account of Military Fund	7,000 00
By warrants paid on account of Soldiers' Home	3,000 00
By warrants paid on account of Internal Improvement	40,964 21
Balance	$1,180,229 67
Total	$2,804,741 43

The St. Paul *Press* says of the Lumber trade of Minnesota:

"The following tables show the amount of business done in logs and lumber, in the St. Croix Valley, during the past season:

	Feet.
Total amount of logs scaled by Surveyor-General	120,000,000
Passed through the main boom	93,000,000
Logs sent below in rafts (about)	83,000,000

The figures below show the amount of lumber, lath, shingles, and pickets, sawed in the St. Croix Valley, during the season of 1868:

	Lumber.	Lath.	Shingles.
Taylor's Falls	500,000	.....	.....
Osceola	800,000	.....	.....
Hudson	1,000,000	.....	500,000
Afton	700,000	.....	2,000,000
Glenmont	2,500,000	.....	.....
Prescott	1,500,000	.....	.....
Point Douglas	2,000,000	1,000,000	2,500,000
Marine	1,000,000	700,000	500,000
Lakeland	2,227,675	779,750	401,000
Stillwater	27,014,193	6,756,800	3,994,250
Arcola	700,000	300,600	.....
Total	41,451,876	9,538,050	9,895,250

The running of rafts is becoming a separate branch as well as rafting. One firm has now nearly a monopoly of the rafting business in the lake, having rafted over 50,000,000 this season. Some of the mill owners employ their own pilots by the season—the salaries varying from $1,000 to $2,000 a season, according to the experience and skill of the pilot. Some pilots take contracts for running logs after being rafted at a certain price per 1,000 feet.

There are twenty-two streams tributary to the St. Croix, on which logging is done, varying in distance from Stillwater from 20 to 175 miles. This includes Willow River, which empties at Hudson, and the tributaries, six in number, of Apple River, itself a tributary of the St. Croix. One firm is logging on six streams, and expect to cut between 26,000,000 and 27,000,000. To do this will require between 400 and 500 men, and 250 oxen and horses. Mr. ISAAC STAPLES estimates the logs to be cut during the coming Winter at from 125,000,000 to 150,000,000. This is about fifty per cent. greater than that of the season just closed. Assuming the larger estimate to be the correct one—with the well-known fact that eight horses and fifteen men are required to put in one million feet of logs—it shows that there will be employed in the St. Croix pineries this Winter 12,000 oxen and horses, and 2,250 men. The season promises to be a good one for getting in logs—an abundance of rain having fallen to fill up the swamps, which the recent cold weather has frozen solid."

The Washington *Star* says of the Coal trade on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal:

At the coal trade, by way of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal closed for the season yesterday, we give the following review of the work of this year. The season is supposed to commence April 1 and terminate Dec. 10, allowing 253 days. Now, of these 253 days, 74 were lost by reason of breaks, injuries to locks, and other mishaps, which, averaging the amount of coal shipped per day shows a loss during that time to the Company of the tolls on 180,000 tons of coal. Even with this loss of time the shipments during the past season amounted to 491,769.04 tons, an increase of 78,000 tons over the shipments of 1867. During the same time 4,479 permits were granted to loaded boats at Cumberland, an increase of 250 over last year. The above figures show that the coal trade is constantly increasing, but now the only outlet for coal till next Spring will be by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Although more coal has been shipped this season than ever before, over the canal, the revenue will be considerably less than last year, because of the reduction of the tolls, made necessary in consequence of the reduction of the rates on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The Philadelphia *North American* says of the Coal trade of the week:

"The shipping season is virtually ended, navigation having closed on the Schuylkill Canal, and if the present weather continues a day or so the Delaware and Raritan will no longer be open. There has been a very heavy decrease in the tonnage of the past week. This has been owing to the combined effects of the strike and heavy snowstorms in the coal regions, which prevented the trains from running on the lateral railroads. It is expected that quite a number of collieries will start next week to fill the present demand, which is estimated from 40,000 to 45,000 tons per week. The following are the current rates of freights from Port Richmond for the week ending Dec. 10:

Portland	$3 50	New-Haven	$2 70
Portsmouth	3 70	Albany	2 40
Boston	3 50@4 00	New-York	1 50@1 75
Charlestown	3 50	Staten Island	1 60
Gloucester	3 65	Spuyten Duyvel	1 50@1 60
Salem	3 50	Washington	2 00
Providence	2 50@2 75	Alexandria	2 00
Bridgeport	2 75	Charleston	1 75
Norwich and towing	2 65	Mobile	4 50@5 00

Internal Revenue Decision.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1868.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 8th of October, I have to say that the law imposes a tax on tobacco "reduced from leaf into a condition to be consumed," by whatever mode such reduction may be effected, and also on all refuse scraps and sweepings of tobacco. Tobacco put upon the market for sale or consumption as smoking or chewing tobacco, must, under the law, be regarded as tobacco in a condition to be consumed, and therefore taxable. And all tobacco, before sale or removal from the place of manufacture, must be put up in packages, as prescribed by law, and have stamps denoting the payment of the tax affixed and canceled.

Manufacturers of cigars who sell their scraps and clippings for consumption as smoking tobacco, must pack and stamp it according to law, and as Collectors of Internal Revenue are only authorized to sell stamps for tobacco and snuff to such manufacturers of these articles as have given bonds as required by law, it may become necessary for cigar manufacturers who put up their scraps and clippings for consumption and sale, to pay the special tax and give the requisite bond as manufacturers of tobacco, before they can procure stamps of the Collector.

The scraps and clippings, however, may be sold in bulk without the payment of any tax, provided the sale of the same is made directly and exclusively to manufacturers of smoking tobacco, or to any other manufacturer who will use the same in the production of smoking tobacco, snuff and cigarettes, or any other similar product which will pay tax, and which manufacturer is bound by law to account for to the Government for all raw materials, of whatever kind, he purchases and consumes or uses.

Stems and sweepings which are neither in a condition to be consumed, nor of sufficient value to warrant their sale as material to be used in the manufacture of other products, may be destroyed, if done with the knowledge and consent of the local revenue officers.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed) E. A. ROLLINS, Commissioner.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1868.

SIR: In conformity with a decision of the Attorney-General of the United States, rendered on the 14th inst., I have ruled that a distiller is authorized to convey the product of his distillation from the outlet of the worm, either directly or through a tank or low-wine tub to a still or doubler, through which such product has not previously passed, and to redistill or double such product therein, and convey the proof spirits through a worm to the receiving cisterns, and the low wines back from the worm to the tank, or, if no tank is used, to the still or doubler above specified. It is, however, provided that the terms of the decision shall not be construed to authorize any apparatus or processes for receiving proof spirits, or of manufacturing alcoholic compounds is permissible; and further, that the process of distillation in such case must be continuous, and no opening or access can be allowed to any part of the apparatus between the original still and the receiving cisterns, while the distillery is in operation.

You will, therefore, authorize the various distillers in your District to convey their product from the beer vat into the wood still, and from thence, without passing into another still or a doubler, through the beer-heater into the worm. The distillers may, however, at their option, introduce, between the still and the heater, a receiving cistern, and pickets, sawed in the St. Croix Valley, during the season of 1868:

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. A. ROLLINS, Commissioner.

EDGAR NEEDHAM, Esq., Assessor Fifth District Kentucky, Louisville.

LAW REPORTS.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

IMPORTANT TO THE BAR—ORDER CONCERNING THE BUSINESS OF THE UNITED STATES COURT.

Judge NELSON has sent on the following order concerning the business of the Circuit and District Courts:

For the sake of convenience in the disposal of business in the Circuit Court, the Clerk is directed to place criminal cases and cases arising under the Revenue laws, (excluding any that may be specially excepted,) upon a separate calendar, to be called and disposed of by Judge Benedict until otherwise ordered.

In the absence of the presiding Justice, motions, arguments, and trials without a jury in cases belonging to either of the above-mentioned classes, when not otherwise specially ordered, will be heard before Judge Benedict, and may be noticed for any Saturday in term.

Motions, arguments and trials in all other cases, when not otherwise specially ordered, will be heard before Judge BLATCHFORD.

S. NELSON.

Judge BENEDICT took his seat in the Circuit Court yesterday morning, and said, the presiding Justice has assigned certain classes of causes in this Court to be disposed of by me—causes arising under the Criminal and Revenue law. They will be placed upon a separate calendar to be called the first Wednesday in January, and I shall hold Court for that purpose four weeks. I shall sit on Saturdays in this Court to hear motions, cases without a jury and preliminary questions that may arise in these two classes of cases. Motions to quash indictments must be brought on on Saturdays, and not after the jury are summoned. If any motion is now ready in either of these two classes of cases I am prepared to hear it.

THE FULLERTON CASE—MOTION TO QUASH TO BE MADE ON THE 19TH INST.

The United States vs. *William Fullerton et al.*—This case coming up Mr. Courtney said: If the Court please, on the 3d of November last the Grand Jury for this district filed indictments against William Fullerton, Jacob Dupuy, Alfred A. Bolmar, Daniel C. Birdsall and Edwin J. Windust. The parties to the indictment the same day gave bail before the Commissioner, and appeared in Court the next day in person and by counsel. I desired to have the parties plead to the indictment, but they declined to do so at that time, and had a week given them to determine what course they would take in the matter. Further time was given them, and the case still remains open. Now I desire to have the direction of the Court in the matter—whether the parties shall plead, or what course they intend to take in regard to the indictment. On the part of the Government we are desirous to try the case at the earliest possible moment. If the parties are

DRY GOODS.

SELLING OFF

LAKE & M'CREADY,

NO. 471 BROADWAY,
PREPARATORY TO REMOVING
TO THEIR
NEW STORE,
CORNER BROADWAY AND 11TH-ST.,
OFFER THE BALANCE OF THEIR STOCK OF
FALL AND WINTER

DRY GOODS,

COMPRISING
SILKS,
DRESS GOODS,
LACES,
HOSIERY,
CLOTHS,
VELVETS,
CLOAKS
AND
SHAWLS,
AT AN

IMMENSE REDUCTION.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

A STILL GREATER REDUCTION WILL BE MADE
IN ORDER TO

CLOSE OUT

THE STOCK AS BELOW.

RETIRING

FROM RETAIL BUSINESS.

STRANG & ADRIANCE,

NO. 355 BROADWAY, BETWEEN LEONARD AND FRANKLIN STS.,
about to give up their RETAIL BUSINESS, will offer
GREAT BARGAINS IN DRY GOODS
IN ORDER TO CLOSE OUT THEIR STOCK
BEFORE THE 1ST OF JANUARY,
as the store is to be occupied by other business.
N. B.—Our friends and the customers of the house for the last ten years are too well acquainted with the superior qualities of goods sold by us to need further recommendations.
All who want REAL BARGAINS are invited to call.

OPEN THIS DAY.

THE NEW COLORS IN
DOG-SKIN GLOVES,
SCARFS AND TIES,
WITH AN IMMENSE VARIETY OF
SHIRTS, COLLARS
AND
UNDERCLOTHING
AT
EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.

UNION ADAMS,
NO. 637 BROADWAY.

GREAT ADVANTAGE TO DRY-GOODS BUYERS.

At LEGRAIN'S No. 729 Broadway, great reduction in all the goods previous to taking annual account of stock.

A FINE ASSORTMENT
OF CHOICE GOODS
AT LOW PRICES.
COLORED AND BLACK SILKS.
FIGURED, STRIPED AND PLAIDED WOOLENS
FOR DRESSES.
PLAIN POPLINS, SILK VELOURS, EMPRESS CLOTHS AND ALPACA POPLINS.
FLANNELS, CALICOES AND WHITE GOODS.
CLOTHS AND CLOAKINGS, the very best choice in New-York.
Ladies wishing to buy choice goods will save money and time if they examine our stock before buying.

LEGRAIN,

NO. 729 BROADWAY.

AT GAYNOR'S, CORSETS,
JUST RECEIVED,
A special importation (for large ladies) of our (100 bone) Corsets, from 18 to 24 inches long;
Also, an ELEGANT VARIETY of our regular COUTILLE AND WOVEN CORSETS.
Can suit all figures.
SKIRTS, PANNIERS, (SUPPORTERS,) BRACES AND PADS,
In endless variety, all at most reasonable prices.

GAYNOR'S,

No. 765 Broadway, near 9th-st.,
and No. 824 Broadway, corner of 12th-st.

AT GAYNOR'S,
ELEGANT EVENING AND PARTY DRESSES,
In SWISS and ORGANDY MUSLINS,
FULL DRESS TRAIN SKIRTS,
In SWISS, LAWN AND CAMBRIC.
HAIR-CLOTH, CROSS-BARRED AND CORDED CRINOLINE SKIRTS,
TRAINS AND SHORT SKIRTS,
to be worn without hoops
PANNIER AND HOOP SKIRTS, LATEST STYLE.

GAYNOR,

No. 765 Broadway, near 9th-st.,
and No. 824 Broadway, corner of 12th-st.

A. T. STEWART & CO.
HAVE MADE LARGE ADDITIONS TO THEIR LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.
WEDDING TROUSSEAUX COMPLETE.
INFANTS' WARDROBES COMPLETE.
CHILDREN'S SUITS IN EVERY VARIETY.
LADIES' BALL AND EVENING DRESSES, MORNING ROBES, SUPPER ROBES, FINE LINEN AND CAMBRIC CHEMISES, CALCONS, CORSETS.
PARIS AND NEW-YORK MADE VELVET AND SILK HATS.
HOOP SKIRTS, &c.,
PREPARED FOR THE OPENING OF THE NEW ADDITION TO THEIR STORE,
AND IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE LATENESS OF THE SEASON,
ARE OFFERED AT EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.
BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH AND 10TH STS.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
REAL INDIA CAMEL'S HAIR SHAWLS,
Long and Square, from $25 upward.
PARIS MADE VELVET SACQUES AND CLOAKS,
$60, $80 and $75 each.
PARIS MADE SILK, POPLIN AND VELVET SUITS.
REAL ASTRACHAN AND PERSIAN LAMB SACQUES,
with hats and muffs to match.
GOLD, SILVER AND VELVET EMBROIDERED BROCHE SILKS.
IMPERIAL GLACE, GLACE POULT DE SOIE AND ANTIQUE.
ELEGANT PLAID POPLINS and Novelties for Walking Suits.
Received per recent steamers,
and for sale at
EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE PRICES, BY
A. T. STEWART & CO.
BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH and 10TH STS.

TO HOUSEKEEPERS.
A. T. STEWART & CO.,
WILL ON MONDAY, DEC. 14, MAKE FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THEIR
POPULAR STOCKS OF
HOUSEKEEPING GOODS, VIZ:
HEAVY 4-4 IRISH LINENS, 60 CENTS PER YARD, UPWARDS.
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF DAMASK TABLE-CLOTHS.
FRINGED HUCK TOWELS, AT $1 25 PER DOZEN.
HANDSOME LINEN DAMASK NAPKINS, $1 50 PER DOZEN.
HEAVY HUCK TOWELING, 30 CENTS PER YARD.
PANTRY AND KITCHEN TOWELING, WHITE AND COLORED.
FLANNELS, BLANKETS, QUILTS, &c., &c.
Broadway, 4th-av., 9th and 10th sts.

IT SOUNDS LIKE 1857.

STAND FROM UNDER,
for we must have some failures soon.
MOST MERCHANTS ARE ONLY FRIGHTENED.
Their stores are full of old goods bought at war prices, and they see their customers, instead of buying their dear goods, all flocking to
FOSTER BROTHERS,
where they find the same goods at half the prices they charge.
AUCTION LOT FINE MUSLINS, 10c.
AUCTION YARD-WIDE MUSLINS,
EXCELLENT QUALITY, 12½c.
AUCTION LOT PRINTS, 10c., last colors.
AUCTION CASSIMERES, 25c. and 25½c.
AUCTION DRESS GOODS, ALPACAS, TABLE LINENS, QUILTS, &c., at half price.
We wish it distinctly understood that the above goods will only be sold at these prices for
"CASH DOWN."
Credit customers must, in all cases, pay an advance of 10 per cent.
FOSTER BROTHERS, 8th-av., near 18th-st.
FOSTER BROTHERS, No. 272 Bleecker-st.

INDIA CAMELS HAIR SHAWLS
and SCARFS, for Holiday presents, on advantageous terms. J. RUSSELL, 29 East 14th-st., near Broadway.

DRY GOODS.

SUGDEN & BRADBURY,

(LATE WITH LORD & TAYLOR,)
Nos. 312 and 314 Bowery,
near Bleecker-st.,
IN ORDER TO OFFER
SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS
FOR
THE HOLIDAYS,
Have REDUCED THE PRICE of their stock of
DRESS GOODS
25 PER CENT.,
OUR
SILKS,
SHAWLS,
CLOAKS,
LACE CURTAINS
and FANCY GOODS
will all be found proportionately LOWER THAN LAST WEEK'S PRICES.
We shall open on MONDAY a line of
BLACK FIGURED SILKS,
of elegant quality, at
$18 PER DRESS,
WARRANTED ALL SILK,
and the same as are usually sold at $3 per yard.
ALSO,
LINENS,
BLANKETS,
QUILTS,
COMFORTABLES
and FLANNELS,
in all of which, as regards quality and price, we solicit comparison with any other house.

CLOSING OUT!

A TERRIBLE SACRIFICE.

45 Pieces of Parisienne Cloths, $1 05 per yard; former price $1 50 per yard.
38 Pieces of Parisienne Cloths, $1 25 per yard; former price $1 75 per yard.
21 Pieces of Lupin's Bombazines, $1 10 per yard; former price $1 50 per yard.
25 Pieces English Bombazines, $2 per yard; former price $2 75 per yard.
34 Pieces Crape Cloths, very fine, 75c. per yard; former price $1 25 per yard.
1 Case of Princess, $4 50 per dress; former price $7 per dress.
40 pieces Lustre Cords, 45c. per yard; former price 70c. per yard.
32 Pieces Lustre Cords, 50c. per yard, former price 75c. per yard.
30 Pieces Lustre Cords, 60c. per yard; former price 85c. per yard.
25 Pieces Lustre Cords, 70c. per yard; former price $1 per yard.
48 Pieces Lustre Cords, 90c. per yard; former price $1 25 per yard.
Full Lines of Alpacas from 45c. to 90c., at the same sacrifice.
N. B.—ASTRACHAN, SEAL SKINS AND BEAVER CLOAKINGS AT DECIDED BARGAINS.

JACKSON'S MOURNING STORE,

NO. 551 Broadway,
OPPOSITE TIFFANY & CO.'S.

SELLING OFF!!
ARNOLD CONSTABLE & CO.,
Canal, corner of Mercer-st.,
HAVE MADE GREAT REDUCTION
IN THE PRICES OF THEIR
FALL AND WINTER
DRY GOODS,
AT RETAIL,
Preparatory to removing to their
NEW STORE.

CHEAP
HOLIDAY PRESENTS!
LARGE ADDITIONS
Will be made on MONDAY to our stock of
POPLINS, SERGES, WINOEYS,
POPLIN ALPACAS, REPS, CALICOES,
&c., &c.,
Cut in DRESS LENGTHS, and marked in PLAIN FIGURES.
ALSO,
A FINE STOCK OF
FRENCH MERINOES,
FROM 60 CENTS AND UPWARD.
ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.,
Corner Canal and Mercer sts.

ELEGANT
CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S
GIFTS.
INDIA LONG AND SQUARE
SHAWLS,
INDIA SCARFS,
ASTRAKHAN AND SEAL-SKIN
FUR CLOAKS,
EMBROIDERED VELVET AND CLOTH CLOAKS,
RICH GLACE AND FAILLE SILKS,
COLORED SATINS, MOIRE ANTIQUES,
"BONNET" AND "TAPISSIER'S" CELEBRATED
BLACK SILKS.
CHRILLEY'S KID GLOVES.
CARVED IVORY HANDLE
UMBRELLAS AND PARASOLS, &c.
ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.,
Canal, corner Mercer-st.,

MISS M. GREGG,
NO. 19 8TH-AV.,
Is desirous of closing out her
FALL AND WINTER
STOCK OF
CLOAKS,
IN VELVET, CLOTH AND PLUSH,
and will offer them at greatly reduced prices.
She has a number of CLOAKS
FROM $10 TO $20,
and a variety of FINE COLORED CLOTHS
TO BE SOLD BY THE YARD.
She would call the attention of the ladies to her
WALKING SUITS,
IN SILK AND WORSTED MATERIAL,
which are being sold very reasonable.
ALSO,
A FEW NOVELTIES
IN OPERA AND CARRIAGE CLOAKS.

A. T. STEWART & CO.
Have made large additions to their
POPULAR STOCKS OF
HANDSOMM PLAID SILKS, AT $1 AND $1 25 PER YARD;
VALUE, $1 40 AND $1 60 PER YARD.
HEAVY PLAIN AND FANCY POPLINS,
25c. PER YARD:
VALUE, 40c. PER YARD.
YARD-WIDE ALL WOOL POPLINS,
50c. PER YARD.
SILK CHENE ARMURE POPLINS, 75c. PER YARD;
VALUE, $1 25.
CRETONNE POPLINS, 40c., 50c. and 65c. PER YARD:
ABOUT ONE-HALF THEIR VALUE.
FRENCH MERINO CLOTHS, ONLY 65c. PER YARD.
HEAVY SILVER CLOTH SACQUES,
FROM $8 UPWARD.
WALKING COSTUMES,
ONLY $10, $12, $15 AND $20 EACH:
&c. &c. &c.
THE ABOVE ARE OFFERED AS
HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
AND WILL BE FOUND NOT ONLY ATTRACTIVE IN STYLE, BUT AT EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.
BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH AND 10TH STS.

A. T. STEWART & CO.
Offer
a complete assortment of
TRIMMING RIBBONS in Satins and Taffetas;
BONNET RIBBONS, all widths;
SASH RIBBONS, PLAIN, PLAID AND STRIPED;
TRIMMING SATINS, VELVETS, PLUSHES, &c.,
AT PRICES GREATLY BELOW THEIR VALUE.
BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH AND 10TH STS.

TOYS.

A fine and varied assortment, at STAVELEY'S, No. 870 Broadway, near 18 h-st.

INDIA SHAWL.
One of the finest ever imported from Calcutta, for sale at No. 54 Beaver-st. ROWLAND JOHNSON.

M. A. DOUGLASS IS OFFERING A select stock of Cloaks, Undergarments, Laces, &c. On Monday will open a case of choice PARISIAN NOVELTIES. No. 13 East 17th-st., between Broadway and 5th-av.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS TO MILLIONS.
KIMMEL & FORSTER'S,
Nos. 254 and 256 Canal-st., New-York,
Complete paper dolls, called "The American Lady and Her Children," with various styles of fashionable costumes, consists of lady, girl, boy and baby, containing 36 changes in a beautiful illustrated box. Sent to any part of the United States and Canada free for $1.
THE FLAGS OF ALL NATIONS—Carried by Soldiers in their National Uniforms. An instructive book for young and old, quarto size, forming a panorama 75 center; sent by mail. Are also to be had at all stationers, toy stores and booksellers.
Dealers supplied by the American News Company, Nos. 119 and 121 Nassau-st., and New-York News Company, Nos. 9 Spruce-st.

AUCTION SALES.

THE GREAT SALE

OF THE

MORRIS PROPERTY,

JOINING ARCULARIUS HOTEL, CENTRAL-AV.,

DEC. 22, 1868.

PAMPHLETS AND MAPS SHOWING ALL THE ROADS AND AVENUES FROM THE CITY HALL, AT THE OFFICE OF

JAS. M. MILLER,

NO. 28 PINE-ST.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.
BY HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER.
On WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, 16th and 17th December, at 7½ o'clock each evening, at the
LEEDS' ART GALLERIES,
Nos. 817 and 819 Broadway, southwest corner of 12th-st., private collection of fine Oil Paintings, the property of a gentleman now abroad, comprising the works of a number of our eminent and favorite artists; also high-class pictures by celebrated European artists, including two important works, painted to order for the present owner, by
REGIS GIGNOUX,
THE FIRST SNOW,
A FINE LARGE LANDSCAPE BY
D. HUNTINGTON, N. A.
Also embracing the works of

J. F. Kensett,	O. Van Thoren,	Schuselle,
S. R. Gifford,	C. P. Granchi,	W. W. Nicholson,
G. H. Hall,	J. H. Dolph,	J. R. Brevoort,
L. R. Mignot,	V. Nehlig,	Andrews,
J. G. Brown,	W. M. Brown,	Hamilton,
Wm. Hart,	J. G. McCord,	J. D. Barrow,
R. White,	R. A. Blakelock,	K. Van Elton,
A. D. Shattuck,	Bradford,	C. A. Sommer,
Geo. Inness,	Doughty,	Carmichael,
W. F. Dettiaas,	W. M. Oddie,	E. DeBlock,
Meyer Von Bremen,	J. Williamson, Mertz,	Schodge's, H. Severy,
Armfield,	Van-de-Pol,	D. Cal,
J. Noel,	O. Hoquet,	Knell,
H. Schaep,	Mussion,	A. Barland,

and other favorite artists of celebrity. The Pictures will be on exhibition, free, on and from THURSDAY, 10th inst., until evening of sale, with catalogues.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.
BY HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER.
ASSIGNEE'S SALE IN BANKRUPTCY OF ELEGANT DIAMOND JEWELRY, STERLING AND SILVER-PLATED WARE, FANCY GOODS, &c. BY ORDERS OF J. FORNACHON, ASSIGNEE.
HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER will sell at auction on TUESDAY, Dec. 15, at 10½ o'clock, and every day following until the entire stock is disposed of, at No. 296 Pearl-st., and Nos. 34, 36 and 38 Fulton-st., under the United States Hotel, the entire stock together with the fixtures, contained in the above store, by order of Assignee, in which stock will be found:
ELEGANT DIAMOND JEWELRY—Consisting of cluster and single stone diamond rings, brooches, ear-rings, scarf pins, &c.; also, coral, full and half sets; ear-rings, beautiful cut cameos, sleeve buttons, studs, scarf pins, gold and silver watches, made by the most celebrated makers; gold guard and vest chains, ladies' gold watches, enameled and set with diamonds.
ELEGANT STERLING SILVER AND PLATED WARE—Consisting in part of tea and tete-a-tete sets; solid silver tea-and dinner, dessert and tea knives, forks, spoons, pickle forks, silver ladles, silver tobacco and snuff-boxes, fruit knives, various sized salvers, ice-pitchers, &c.
CUTLERY—Comprising the finest description, consisting of dinner, dessert and tea knives, cheese scoops, carvers and steels, and other articles in the cutlery line.
Also, all the fixtures of said establishment, consisting of two large jewelers' safes, silver-plated French plate glass, show-cases, scales and weights, counters, &c.
Also, the lease, expiring on the first of May, 1870, which will be sold on the last day of the sale.
The stock is all in good condition, very extensive, and will be sold without reserve. By order of
J. FORNACHON, Assignee.

By HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER.
HENRY H. LEEDS, AUCTIONEER.—GREAT SALE OF HOLIDAY GOODS. HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER will sell by auction on Wednesday and Thursday, 16th and 17th of December, at their salesroom, No. 83 Liberty-st., the entire stock of "LA PETITE MAISON DE MEUBLE," removed for convenience of sale, consisting of DOLLS, DRESSED AND UNDRESSED, TOYS, GAMES, GILT AND BLACK WALNUT FRAMES, FRENCH PASTE PARQUETS, BRACKETS, BASKETS, CUTLERY, FLAGS, LANTERNS, GLASS CASES, FANCY GOODS, &c., &c., to be sold without reserve.

BOOKS AT AUCTION
CLINTON HALL BOOK SALEROOMS AND ART GALLERIES.
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO. AUCTIONEERS.
MONDAY, DEC. 14,
And following days, at 7 o'clock P. M.,
A choice collection of books, relating to America, local histories, scarce Confederate currency, large paper and privately printed works, facsims, &c.; also, a valuable lot of autograph letters, manuscripts, &c., coins, medals, &c.; also, a collection of music, formerly the property of Mr. Wm. Palmer, (Robert Heller,) with two violins, said to be very valuable. Catalogues ready and articles on exhibition.

SALE OF ORDNANCE STORES.
By direction of the President of the United States the following condemned ordnance and ordnance stores will be offered at public auction at the Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts, on THURSDAY, the 17th December, at 10 o'clock A. M., viz:
54 cast-iron cannon, 1 boring machine,
Artillery impements and 1 vertical drill,
equipments, 1 Nott's force-pump,
Muskets, rifles and swords, Blacksmiths', carpenters' and
Infantry equipments, finishers' tools,
Spare parts of small arms, Scrap iron and steel.
Catalogues containing more detailed information can be had by application at the Arsenal, or at the Ordnance Office, Washington City. C. P. KINGSBURY,
Brevet Brigadier-General Commanding.
WATERTOWN ARSENAL, Mass., Dec. 10, 1868.

EDWARD SCHENCK, Auctioneer.
LARGE TRADE SALE OF NEW CARRIAGES and sleighs of the finest City and other makers, to be sold at auction by EDWARD SCHENCK, at the Armory, in 14th-st., near 8th-av., commencing
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16,
at 9½ o'clock A. M., each day, and continuing until 12 o'clock, and recommencing every evening at 7½ o'clock, until the stock is dispose of.
The sale will comprise about 200 vehicles.

CLARENCES,	LANDAUS,
COACHES,	PHAETONS,
DOG CARTS,	BAROUCHES,
COUPES,	WAGONS,
SLEIGHS.	

They will be on exhibition on MONDAY, 14th, and TUESDAY, 15th inst., DAY and EVENING.
The above is the first and largest sale of first-class carriages ever sold in this City, and the attention of all purchasers is respectfully solicited. Sale absolute.

ADRIAN H. MULLER, Auctioneer.
LOTS ON 117TH AND 118TH STS., NEAR 4TH-AV.—ADRIAN H. MULLER, P. R. WILKINS & CO., will sell at auction on TUESDAY, Dec. 15, at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway: 117TH-ST.—Eight lots on the north side of 117th-st., commencing 158 feet west of 5th-av.
118TH-ST.—Five lots on the south side of 118th-st., commencing 175 feet west of 5th-av.
Maps at the office of the Auctioneers, No. 7 Pine-st.

A. J. BLEECKER, SON & CO., Auctioneers.
TUESDAY, DEC. 15, AT 12 O'CLOCK, at the Exchange Salesroom:
BUILDING LOTS ON MADISON-AV.
MADISON-AV.—Two valuable lots on the east side of Madison-av., commencing 78.7½ north of 80th-st., each 25.6½x100.
$7,000 can remain on each for four years.
Maps at No. 77 Cedar-st.

ROBERT SOMERVILLE, Auctioneer, No. 37 Nassau-st.
TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 15, AT 10½ o'clock, at ROBERT SOMERVILLE'S Salesroom, No. 37 Nassau-st., an assortment of furniture, rosewood piano, &c., for account of whom it may concern; at 11 o'clock, a fine assortment of English and American books, in fine bindings, juvenile works, &c.; also a fine line of chromos.

J. COLE, Auctioneer.
POSITIVE ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF BANKrupt property, belonging to the late firm of the Kerosene Oil Company, to be sold at the manufactory of said Company on Newtown Creek, near Greenpoint-av., in the town of Newtown, L. I., on THURSDAY, Dec. 17, at 11 o'clock A. M., by JAS. COLE & SON. By order of CHAS. JONES, Esq., assignee. Catalogues at sale.

J. COLE, Auctioneer.
POSITIVE SALE TO CLOSE, AN ESTATE of 36 valuable lots and gores, in the immediate vicinity of Prospect Park, situate in Wyckoff and Warren sts., near Franklin-av., Brooklyn, to be sold by James Cole's Son, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, at 12 o'clock, at the Commercial Exchange, No. 289 Fulton-st., opposite the City Hall, Brooklyn. Maps, &c., are now ready.

AUCTION NOTICE.—PARTIES ABOUT MAKing Christmas and New-Year's Presents should call at ERNEST ROTH'S furniture manufactory, Nos. 56 and 58 Bleecker-st., between Broadway and the Bowery, and see his parlor suites, covered in French satin, brocatel, reps and haircloth, from $65 to $200; Turkish chairs and lounges, bedroom and dining-room suites, cheap for cash. Furniture taken on storage.

MEDICAL.

NO MORE MEDICINE.

70,000 CURES OF DYSPEPSIA,
PHTHISIS,
CONSTIPATION, DIARRHŒA, LIVER AND NERVOUS DISORDERS BY DU BARRY'S DELICIOUS FOOD.

REVALENTA ARABICA,

which saves fifty times its cost in medicines. Tins, 1 pound, $1 25; 2½ pounds, $18.
Also, REVALENTA CHOCOLATE, in half-pound packets, 75 cents.
DU BARRY & CO., No. 183 William-st., New-York, and all Grocers and Chemists in town and country.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

WANTED—BY A NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE, a parlor and bedroom, with board, in a respectable German family (Jewish preferred,) on the west side of the City; references exchanged. Address B. E., Station E.

NO. 53 EAST 15TH-ST., NEAR IRVING-PLACE.—Handsome furnished rooms, with first-class board, to a gentleman and wife or a party of gentlemen; also a few day boarders.

A SMALL PRIVATE FAMILY WILL LET a nicely-furnished front room on third floor, without board, to a gentleman and wife or a party of gentlemen; also a few day boarders.

A SMALL PRIVATE FAMILY WILL LET a nicely-furnished front room on third floor, without board, to a gentleman only. Address B. Box No. 127 Times Office.

TWO FAMILIES CAN FIND MOST DESirable rooms, with board, in the first-class house No. 117 East 26th-st., between 4th and Lexington avs. Also, one pleasant front hall-room.

THREE COMFORTABLY-FURNISHED rooms, with or without board, either singly or together, on moderate terms to respectable parties. No. 101 West 22d-st.

NO. 317 WEST 33D-ST., A FEW DOORS from Pike's Opera House.—Handsomely furnished rooms to rent, with board; also, small rooms; moderate terms.

WANTED—PERMANENTLY, BREAKFAST, tea and two furnished bedrooms—one with a fire, for two gentlemen, south of 18th-st. Address O, Box 1,957 Post Office.

WANTED—BY A SINGLE GENTLEMAN, A furnished parlor and bedroom, between 26th and 32d sts., 4th and 6th avs.; references exchanged. Address Box No. 5,670 Post Office.

EAST 35TH-ST.—BACK PARLOR AND BEDroom, with reception room, to let, with board. Address W. F., No. 20 Uhf-st.

NO. 44 WEST 33D.-ST.—A PARLOR AND bedroom, and two large rooms to let, with or without private table. References required.

NO. 107 17TH-ST., THIRD DOOR EAST of Union-square.—The second floor handsomely furnished, to let, with board; references exchanged.

A PRIVATE FAMILY WILL LET A furnished rooms on second floor, with or without board, to gentlemen. Apply at No. 61 West 24th-st.

SINGLE ROOMS, WITH BOARD, ON first, second and fourth floors, at No. 52 University-place.

ON 34TH-ST., A SUITE OF ROOMS, WITH board, desirable for gentleman and wife or single gentlemen. W. O. B., No. 165 Liberty-st.

BOARD—IN A SMALL PRIVATE FAMILY OF adults; house, furniture and neighborhood first-class. No. 112 East 17th-st., near Union-square.

TO LET—WITH BOARD, A ROOM TO SUIT one gentleman. Apply at No. 186 2d-av., between 11th and 12th sts.

AT NO. 7 WEST 35TH-ST., TWO DESIRAble rooms to let, furnished, without board.

SHIPPING.

STEAM TO GLASGOW AND DERRY.
THE ANCHOR LINE,
favorite Clyde-built Steamers, are intended to sail
EVERY SATURDAY
From Pier No. 20, North River, 12 o'clock, noon.
BRITANNIA.....Dec. 19 COLUMBIA.....Jan. 9
UNITED KINGD'M.Dec 26 IOWA.....Jan. 16
EUROPA.....Jan. 2 CALEDONIA.....Jan. 23
RATES OF PASSAGE PAYABLE IN CURRENCY.
Cabins, to Liverpool, Glasgow, or Derry, $90 and $75.
Excursion tickets, good for 12 months, $155.
Steerage, to Glasgow or Derry, $30; intermediate, $35.
Prepaid Certificates from these ports, $37.
Passengers booked to and from Hamburg, Havre, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at very low rates.
Drafts issued payable at any bank in Great Britain and Ireland.
For further information apply at the Company's office, No. 6 Bowling-green, New-York, to
HENDERSON BROTHERS.

LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY.
FOR LIVERPOOL.
From Pier No. 45 North River, WEDNESDAYS.
NEBRASKA.....3,300 tons.....Dec. 16, at 8 A. M.
MANHATTAN.....2,965 tons.....Dec. 23, at 12 M.
MINNESOTA.....2,960 tons.....Jan. 6.
COLORADO.....3,018 tons.....Jan. 20.
Cabin Passage, $80, gold; Steerage, $30, currency.
Tickets to bring out passengers from Europe can be obtained on reasonable terms.
For freight or passage apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 71 Wall-st.
For steerage passage to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 29 Broadway.

STEAM COMMUNICATION DIRECT BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND NEW-ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA, VIA PANAMA.
THE PANAMA, NEW-ZEALAND, AND AUSTRALIAN ROYAL MAIL COMPANY dispatch a steamer every month, viz: Panama about the 20th, upon the arrival of the British Mail Steamer at Aspinwall. The Pacific Mail Company's steamer leaving New-York for Aspinwall on the 6th of each month will make the necessary connection. Passengers and cargo booked through from New-York to the several Colonial ports.
A special steamer runs to the newly discovered gold region of Hokitika.
For further information regarding rates of freight, passage money, &c., &c., apply to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, No. 7 Wall-st., or to
CHARLES W. WEST, Agent,
No. 23 William-st., New-York.

NATIONAL LINE.
THE STEAMSHIP PENNSYLVANIA, Hall, Will leave SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 9 A. M., from Pier No. 47 North River.
Passage to Liverpool or Queenstown: Cabin, $100; Steerage, $30, currency.
Steerage tickets from Liverpool or Queenstown, $37, currency.
Apply at the Company's office, Nos. 69 Broadway.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.
UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 23d of every month:
MISSISSIPPI, Capt. GEO. B. SLOCUM, Dec. 23.
MERRIMACK, Capt. L. F. TIMMERMAN, Jan. 23.
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. E. L. TINKLEPAUGH, Feb. 23.
These splendid steamers sail on schedule time, and call at St. Thomas, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagements of freight or passage, apply to
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York.

HAVANA, SISAL AND VERA CRUZ.—New-York and Mexican Mail Steamship Line, sailing every twenty days. The fine steamship GRANADA, Capt. F. M. HARRIS, will leave Pier No. 17 East River, on SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 11 A. M. Passage to Havana, $65 currency. For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 44 Beaver-st.

FOR SAVANNAH, SEMI-WEEKLY.
BLACK STAR INDEPENDENT LINE.
OPPOSITION TO MONOPOLY.
The first-class steamship HUNTSVILLE will leave Pier No. 13 North River, on SATURDAY, Dec. 12, and THAMES on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, at 3 P. M.
For freight or passage apply to
R. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West-st.
Cabin passage $20.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS,
DIRECT.
The well-known side-wheel steamship
DE SOTO, W. B. EATON, Commander,
will leave Pier No. 36 North River, on
SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 3 o'clock P. M.
Through rates and through bills of lading given to Galveston, Indianola, Lavacca and Rock Port, Texas; Mobile, Ala., and to all points on the Mississippi River.
For freight apply to
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., No. 88 Liberty-st.

FOR NASSAU, N. P.
UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE BAHAMA GOVERNMENT FOR CARRYING THE
ROYAL MAILS.
THE ATLANTIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY will dispatch the splendid side-wheel steamer
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE, Dec. 31,
at 3 o'clock P. M., precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River, with engagements of freight or passage apply to
GEO. B. HARTSON, President, No. 5 Bowling-green
UNITED STATES MAIL TO HAVANA.
ATLANTIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
SAILING REGULARLY EVERY THURSDAY, AT 3 o'clock P. M., precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River.
EAGLE, Capt. M. R. GREENE, Dec. 17.
MORRO CASTLE, Capt. R. ADAMS, Dec. 24.
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE, via Nassau, Dec. 31.
For freight or passage apply to
GEO. B. HARTSON, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS DIRECT,
THE CROMWELL LINE.
Steamships of this Line will leave Pier No. 9 North River, at 3 o'clock P. M., as follows:
MARIPOSA.....KEMBLE, SATURDAY, Dec. 19
GEO. CROMWELL.....VAILL, SATURDAY, Dec. 26
Freight taken for St. Louis, Mobile and Galveston as through rates.
For passage or freight apply to the agents,
H. B. CROMWELL & CO., No. 86 West-st.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS BY PACIFIC MAIL Steamship Company's steamer RISING STAR sails on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, at 12 M., from Pier No. 42 North River.
Freight received until TUESDAY, 4 P. M.
WELLS, FARGO & CO., Freight Agents.

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., THE FLORIDA PORTS AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST.—REGULAR LINE.—The A1 fast and reliable steamship SAN SOUCI, M. S. CROWELL, Commander, will sail on THURSDAY, Dec. 17, at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 8 North River. Cabin passage reduced to $15. Through bills of lading to all points South and Southwest. Agents in Charleston (RAVENEL & CO.) forward all goods free of commission.
ARTHUR LEARY, No. 73 William-st.
The steamship VIRGO will sail on the following THURSDAY.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOtice is hereby given to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands, affected thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors for examination by all persons interested, viz:
1st. For laying crosswalks across James-street from number sixty-one to sixty-two.
2d. For laying crosswalks from the southeast to the northeast corner of Fifth-street and First-avenue.
3d. For paving with trap-blocks the carriage-way of Fifty-seventh-street, from First-avenue to Avenue A.
4th. For flagging sidewalks of Sixth-avenue, west side, from Forty-sixth to Fifty-ninth-street.
The limits embraced by such assessment include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on
1st. Both sides of James-street, from Madison to Oak-street.
2d. Both sides of Fifth-street, from First-avenue to a point half way to Avenue A; also, the east side of First-avenue, from Fifth-street to a point distant half the block, north and south.
3d. Both sides of Fifty-seventh-street, from First-avenue to Avenue A, to the extent of half the block either way on said avenues.
4th. The west side of Sixth-avenue, from Forty-Eighth-street to Fifty ninth-street.
All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to Isaac O. Hunt, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 32 Chambers-street, (second floor Court-house, within thirty days from the date of this notice.
ISAAC O. HUNT,
E. HARRISON REED,
GUERNSEY SACKETT, } Board of Assessors.
OFFICE BOARD OF ASSESSORS, NEW COURT-HOUSE, Dec. 9, 1868.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU OF THE RECEIVER OF TAXES, COURT-HOUSE, PARK, No. 32 CHAMBERS-ST. Dec. 4, 1868.
TO TAX-PAYERS.—NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an additional one per cent. will be added on the 12th inst. to all taxes unpaid on that day. On the 1st of January following interest at the rate of twelve per cent. will be added, to be calculated from the 7th day of October, 1868, to the date of payment.
BERNARD SMITH, Receiver.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

VELOCIPEDES.
The Monod pattern of the two-wheeled velocipede—the best in use.
C. H. MERCIER & MONOD,
No. 3 William-st., New-York.

FOR SALE—A FINE TURNOUT, CONSISTing of a span of black horses, 6 years old; a fine carriage, Otis make; harness, blankets, and all in good condition; can be bought at a bargain. Inquire of Mr. WISE, No. 116 West 26th-st.

FOUR HORSES WINTERED NEAR City at $10 per month; good stable and attendance. Apply at No. of Pearl-st.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES AND farms, a great variety, beautifully situated one hour from New-York, for sale low. Also, country seats and houses to let for the season, or year, by BLACKWELL & SMITH, No. 349 Broadway, New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.; Orange, corner Main and Cone sts., 1 to 4 P. M.

FINE INVESTMENT.—VALUABLE BUILDing plots, 12, 20 or 50 acres, beautifully located; high ground; on Central-av.; three-quarters of a mile from McComb's Dam; terms to suit. Apply to W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

HOUSES UP-TOWN.
WE ARE OFFERING FOR SALE
a large

THE ERIE RAILWAY WAR.

A Reargument of the Order Appointing Judge Davies Receiver.

This case came before the Special Term of the Supreme Court, Judge CARDOZO presiding, pursuant to adjournment, yesterday morning, on a motion by the defendants—the Erie Railway Company—for a reargument of the motion on which Judge SUTHERLAND appointed Judge DAVIES receiver of the property and revenues of the Erie Railway Company. The Court having decided that a motion for reargument would necessarily involve the merits of the whole case, it was agreed that the motion for reargument, and the motion to vacate the order of Judge SUTHERLAND, should be discussed at the same time, and thus avoid a repetition of the same arguments on the two motions, in case the first motion should be granted.

Among the counsel who appeared for the Erie Railway Company were E. W. STOUGHTON, D. D. FIELD, Ex-Judge PORTER, Ex-Judge BOSWORTH and A. J. VANDERPOEL. On the opposite side, as counsel for BELMONT and partner, on whose complaint Judge SUTHERLAND'S order appointing a receiver was granted, appeared Ex Judge EMOT and CHARLES RAPALLO.

Mr. STOUGHTON opened the argument on the motion to vacate the order in a speech of three hours and a half. He said that the order of Judge SUTHERLAND, which they now moved to set aside, was such an order as he believed was seldom, if ever, granted in a case like this. As the result of that order they had a receivership, not of a particular fund, but of the entire property, effects and revenues of a corporation amounting to seventy-five or a hundred million of dollars. With great respect to the Judge who made the order he submitted that it was very inconsiderately made, and was entirely unprecedented. Who were the parties to this proceeding? Mr. BELMONT and his partner, who allege that they are the owners of 4,000 shares of the stock of the Erie Railroad, and that the stock has been depreciated, and their interests are likely to suffer from the mismanagement of the road. Now, suppose it turns out, on examination of the papers, that this suit instead of being instituted for any such purpose, was instituted by speculators, who were short of Erie stock, and who, having failed to induce the Directors to issue extra stock for their relief, commenced these proceedings for the purpose of alarming the public mind, destroying confidence in the management of the road, and thereby depreciating the stock so that they could buy it at a cheap rate, and relieve themselves from their ruinous speculations? If this should turn out to be the case, would not his Honor wash his hands of the whole conspiracy and refuse to permit a Court of Equity to be used for such a purpose? He would attempt to show the Court, on the uncontradicted affidavits in this case, that the real object and purpose of the proceedings instituted by BELMONT and partner as nominal complainants, but really by DANIEL DREW, FRANK WORK and RICHARD SCHELL. He would first call attention to the fact that the complaint of BELMONT & Co. was sworn to entirely on "information and belief," and for that reason was insufficient in law to warrant the issuing of an injunction and the appointment of a receiver. Therefore, to supply the requirements of the law, two affidavits were procured—those of DREW and WORK. They, with one or two others, were the instigators of this suit, and they, with one or two others, were to pay its expenses. Having prayed, in their complaint, for a receiver, and for them to stop, for this was all they cared to get. Yet, who ever heard before of a receiver being appointed without some provision being made for a distribution, or some kind of disposal of the property that was to come into his hands? A receiver, however, was all that these men who were short of Erie stock wanted. Counsel here read from FISK'S affidavit (already published in the TIMES,) his account of the interview between DREW and himself, on Sunday, in which DREW made "a clean breast of it," and admitted he was short of stock, and would be ruined unless it went down. Why had not that affidavit of FISKE'S been contradicted if it was not true?"

Mr. Rapallo—No one could contradict it except Mr. DREW or FISK himself, and I would not condescend to ask Mr. DREW to do it.

Mr. STOUGHTON continued, and recited to the Court an imaginary paraphrase of DREW'S affidavit, in which he was supposed to make a "clean breast of it," and tell the Court his real motives in instigating this suit, and then asked what sort of case that would have made for Judge SUTHERLAND. Would not that Judge, with the honesty of purpose which all who knew him believed him possessed of, have spurned the bill? And must not the bill, now that it was presented in its true light, fall, and with it the affidavits of DREW and WORK, by which it was supported? He believed it would. He would undertake to say that there never was a bill in equity brought before a Court, supported by two such witnesses that obtained equitable relief from any Chancellor on earth. He might rest here in perfect confidence that this order would be vacated, knowing, as he did, his Honor's views, and the time-honored views of all Courts, with regard to the duties of Chancellors in such a case as this. On the evening of the very day in which the motion was brought before the Court, an order was issued appointing Judge DAVIES receiver of all the property of this great corporation, with instructions to manage the entire affairs of the road, and run the same for an indefinite time. The order would make DAVIES immortal by making him coeval with the existence of the corporation [laughter,] for no prayer ran ahead or beyond this prayer for a receiver. Two days after, the receiver was further instructed and authorized to exercise other powers, appoint and discharge attorneys; in fact, was placed in absolute control of all the operations of the road, and all its officers, being directors, officers and superintendent all in one. Now at this time the Erie Railroad was under the direction of seventeen or eighteen directors, chosen by the stockholders last October. Some of these directors, at least, were known to the Court and to the community to be men of high integrity, character and ability. All of them, after settling with the piratical horde of plunderers who had been preying upon the Erie Railway Company, had been elected as a Board of Directors, without opposition on the part of any stockholder. And yet this order of Judge SUTHERLAND took the road out of the hands of these men and put it into the hands of a gentleman, who, notwithstanding his legal attainments and great versatility of mind, would certainly admit that he was inexperienced in running a railroad. It would be seen, on looking at the papers, that an *ex parte* order of injunction was made on the 16th of November, so that there was no need of haste in this matter of appointing a receiver. [Counsel here spoke of the wrong and injustice that is often done by the present practice of issuing *ex parte* injunctions, tying up large properties and putting a stop to large operations before the merits of the case could be heard.] The defendants in this case had a right to assume that, as an injunction had been granted, there would be extra haste, and the case need not be called out of its order on the calendar. He made no criticism on the Judge who granted this order—no one esteemed him higher or had more perfect confidence in his entire integrity than he—but he was doubtless misled and deceived by the false and inflammatory character of the affidavits that were produced before him. But not that affidavit of FISKE'S produced here at this hearing fully deny all the equities of the bill. It had been said that the proceedings ought to be continued before the same Judge before whom they were commenced. For his part he knew of no difference between Judges, except such as they, for their own convenience, make in the assignment of their respective duties. All the Judges of this Court were as one Judge. He would go before Judge Sutherland on this motion with the same certainty that he would revoke this order after learning the real facts, as he came before the Judge now presiding. He assumed that each and all of the Judges of this Court were equally willing and anxious to administer justice between parties coming before them. He maintained then, that on this complaint, uncontradicted or denied, the parties were not entitled to the relief they sought, for no Judge had the power to grant such a relief. Taking the complaint and the affidavits by which it was supported alone, he would be willing to go before the General Term on the question of the power and jurisdiction of the Court. The complaint alleged that three directors, GOULD, LANE and FISK, had perverted the funds and revenues of the Erie Railroad. We were, therefore, to assume that all the directors except these three were honest and competent men. On the face of the bill there was nothing but the allegation of mismanagement on the part of these three, with no account or inference that the other directors agreed or consented to this mismanagement. Now, under these circumstances, where was the power to take the road from the Board of directors and hand it over to a receiver? If it could be done at the request of a stockholder owning 4,000 shares, it could be done at the request of a stockholder owning only one share, and if the road could be taken out of the hands of the Board of Directors because of the alleged fraud of three directors, the same thing could be done if only one director were charged with fraud. A Court of Equity would naturally ask, under such circumstances, "Where do I get power to do this?" He (counsel) had diligently searched the authorities, both English and American, and could find no authority for such exercise of power. What would an English Chancellor have said to such an application for relief? He would have said, "I will turn this fraudulent director out—enjoin him from acting." This would have been a relief commensurate with the wrong. But he never could take the road out of the direction of its legally-elected officers and put it into the hands of a stranger. Or the Court of Equity might direct a new election of directors by the stockholders or by the other directors. This would have been all that was needful, even assuming that the allegations of fraud against the three directors were true. On this point of the authority of a Court of Equity in such cases, counsel referred the Court to a case in 43 Barbour, page 504, and also to 11 New-York Reports, page 243. So in all the English cases, no instance could be found where a Court of Equity had exercised any such power as was assumed in this case. Counsel also referred at length to the revised statutes which he argued sanctioned no such use of power. The bill in this case must have been framed with the idea that the Court could do just as it pleased, and that it would be pleased to do just as the complainant wished. It first prayed that all the directors be removed except the three, and then prayed that these three be enjoined from obstructing the others in examining the books of the Company. Why did they not proceed according to the statute? Because they wanted a receiver appointed, and thus confuse and alarm the public mind relative to the condition of the Company, and thereby depreciate the stock and carry out the speculating schemes of DREW & Co. This order appointing a receiver was no order, and if he had been called on to advise the Company he would have said to them, "treat the receiver the same as if he did not exist as a receiver, and at the same time extend to him personally the same civility that he always extends to those with whom he comes in contact." Again; not a dollar of these bonds of which the bill complains was issued since the election of the present directors, and the shares of stock issued under the present direction were all issued in conformity to the requirements of the convertible bonds issued by a former Board. No holder of this alleged spurious stock had been brought into Court; no one was here to litigate this question; no relief was asked—nothing but the bare appointment of a receiver for an indefinite time. If it were misconduct in issuing these convertible bonds, it had been sanctioned by the stockholders in electing the present Board of Directors.

Mr. STOUGHTON then took up in detail the allegations of the complaint on which the order appointing a receiver was granted, and also the affidavits by which it was supported. He called attention to their inflammatory character, and how they were all made on "information and belief." He pointed out the falsity and absurdity of the statements in Mr. DREW'S affidavit particularly, and argued that a witness who had by his own showing been so utterly regardless of the truth, was not entitled to the confidence or respect of the Court.

In conclusion he insisted that the plaintiffs had no standing in Court that entitled them to the relief asked for, and that in no case was a stockholder ever entitled to such relief as had been extended in this case.

At the conclusion of Mr. STOUGHTON'S argument, it was agreed that the remaining arguments should be heard alternately by counsel on either side, and the further hearing of the case was then adjourned to Monday next at 1:30 o'clock P. M.

ALLEGED ELECTION FRAUDS.

Report of the Committee on Protests of the Board of City Canvassers.

The Board of City Canvassers met at 1 P. M. yesterday, Alderman HANDY in the chair.

The Committee on Protests, to whom were referred the several protests in relation to irregularities, &c., appearing in the election returns, presented a report through their Chairman, Alderman COMAN.

The following are the principal points of the report:

Your Committee held their first meeting in the chamber of the Board of Aldermen, on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 12 M. The petition of CHARLES C. PINCKNEY was first taken into consideration, and it becoming clearly apparent, upon investigation and comparison of the vote recorded with the original return on file in the office of the Clerk of the Common Council, that the error was a clerical one, the required correction was directed to be made; and the vote, as claimed by the petitioner, was allowed.

The protest of James E. McVEAN next claimed the attention of your Committee; and, as it was evident their decision would determine the election of a member to the Board of Assistant Aldermen for the ensuing year, it was determined to give the case a full and impartial investigation, with the desire that the most exact and evenhanded justice should be accorded, so far as it was possible to do so, to both parties to the controversy.

The errors or irregularities in the Fifth Election District of the Ninth Ward appeared to be as follows:

There was no return made of the vote given for Counsel to the Corporation; the whole number of votes given in the office of Assistant Aldermen was declared to be 220, although the return gives McVEANY 300 votes, HAVILAND 50, and CULKIN 68; and the returns for school officers were all contained upon one page, no classification being made of the offices of Commissioner and Trustee. In fact, the entire return was made out in a very discreditable manner, showing the ineficiency and negligence, if nothing worse, on the part of the canvassers of that district; and went to show, that while each candidate received the vote given for him, it appeared upon the face of the return that one candidate received eighty more votes than the entire number given in the district for the three candidates. The evidence, however, was conclusive, and proved that the aggregate vote of this district was erroneously given. The Committee recommend that the error be corrected, and each candidate allowed the vote returned for him, as it appears in such statement, as follows: JAMES E. McVEANY, 350; PETER CULKIN, 68; JOHN G. HAVILAND, 50.

In the returns from the Eleventh Election District of the Ninth Ward, it was claimed by the protestant that a fraud had been perpetrated upon him by altering the figures originally made in such a manner as to deprive him of seventy-one votes. It was claimed that the words and figures "JAMES E. McVEANY received 180," had been altered to "JAMES E. McVEANY received 108;" and "PETER CULKIN received 107," to "PETER CULKIN received 179." The amplest opportunity was given to the protestant to establish the correctness of the allegations, but failed signally in thee stimation of your Committee to do so.

Canvasser ROBERT H. JOHNSTON (whom the counsel for the protestant characterizes "as a clerk that don't make mistakes") failed to discover any alterations or scratching on the returns, and Canvasser WILLIAM A. DUNHAM testified positively to the correctness of the return giving McVEANY 108, and CULKIN 179 votes. It was impossible, in view of this positive evidence, for your Committee impartially to decide otherwise than to order the returns, as compared, to be canvassed and allowed.

In the Fourteenth Election District of the Ninth Ward a discrepancy of 100 votes appears by comparison of the return filed with the Clerk of the Common Council, and the return filed with the Alderman (WHITE) of that district. The Clerk's return gives CULKIN 370 votes, McVEANY 21 votes; the Alderman's return gives CULKIN 270 votes, and McVEANY 121. The evidence elicited in this case was so palpably worthless, each canvasser, while under examination, after being duly sworn, so flatly contradicting the other, and the corroborative testimony on each side being of the same contradictory nature, your Committee are utterly opposed to giving credence to either, and have decided to disregard it entirely. The evidence of Alderman WHITE, however, is so convincing that fraud was not only attempted but actually perpetrated, that your Committee desire to call particular attention to it. He says: "I received a portion of my returns in the City Hall, and a portion at my house—or they were left there—and the returns that I received here I removed to a place of safety; and a few days after I received them I called into the office where I had deposited them, and saw Mr. McVEANY, who informed me that 'he was beat,' or 'was gone,' or something to that effect; and I asked him what he meant, and he pulled out of a private drawer there the returns and opened them; they were opened, and he showed them to me, and I remonstrated with him for doing that, and I left them there."

In view of the facts elicited, your Committee are in favor of recommending that the return filed with the Clerk of the Common Council be accepted and canvassed as the correct statement of the votes given in that Election District. It will not affect materially the result of the election of Assistant Alderman for that Assembly District; and as any other recommendation would be manifestly unjust, either to the honest candidate or the electors of the district, your Committee therefore recommend that the vote be canvassed as follows:

JAMES E. McVEANY, 21; PETER CULKIN, 370; JOHN G. HAVILAND, 53.

In the Sixteenth District of the Ninth Ward it appeared that Mr. McVEANY had votes on the returns from said district credited to him in two separate and distinct Places; in one he had received 119, and in another 69 votes. In explanation of this irregularity, it was made apparent to your Committee, from the evidence, that no error, so far as the whole number of votes given for each candidate was concerned, was made. The canvassers in that district ignorantly canvassed the returns for Assistant Alderman separately as they were given on the ballots cast for the two different candidates for that office, instead of giving the votes for Assistant Alderman in the aggregate, as contained on the several Aldermanic ballots. Your Committee agreed to give both amounts for Mr. McVEANY, as added together, and allowed as his vote in that Election District 188 in all. This closes all matters in controversy in the Ninth Ward. The recommendations of your Committee will be found in the resolutions at the end of this report.

The attention of your Committee was next called to the votes given in the several Aldermanic Districts of the City having odd numerical designations for the office of Alderman. It appears that, notwithstanding the fact that the last Legislature of the State passed an act entitled "An act to amend the Charter of the City of New-York," which, among other things, provided (section 2)that "no Alderman shall be elected at the Charter election in the year 1868," votes were cast for candidates for that office in each of the Aldermanic Districts having an odd numerical designation. This circumstance placed your Committee decidedly in a dilemma. They are fully aware that it is imperative upon the Board of City Canvassers, whose duties are simply ministerial, to declare the votes given for the several officers voted for at the Charter election as they find them on the returns. To do this, however, places them in direct antagonism with the provisions of the acts of the Legislature.

Your Committee therefore recommend that the votes given for the office of Alderman in each of the Aldermanic Districts having an odd numerical designation be not stated or declared by this Board of Canvassers; but this decision to be without prejudice to any or either of the persons who may appear to have been elected or reelected to test their right to retain the office for the period of two years, as is provided in the Charter of the City, passed April 14, 1857.

In conclusion, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the error indicated in the petition of CHARLES C. PINCKNEY, as appearing in the Clerk's record of votes given in the Seventeenth Election District of the Twenty-first Ward, be corrected, as asked, and the vote so corrected, be confirmed by the Board of City Canvassers.

Resolved, That the canvass of votes in the several Election Districts of the Ninth Ward be made as contained in such returns, except in the Fourteenth Election District; and that in that the returns filed with the Clerk of the Common Council be accepted and counted as the correct official statement.

Resolved, That no statement or declaration be made of the votes given for the office of Alderman in the several Aldermanic Districts of the City having odd numerical designations; but that this action of the Board of City Canvassers be taken without prejudice to the right of any or either of such persons so voted for to test the validity or constitutionality of the act of the Legislature prohibiting the election of Aldermen at the Charter election in the year 1868, and for the purpose of securing the rights of any person or persons so interested, the returns from such districts be filed in the ordinary way, signed by the Alderman or Aldermen canvassing said district.

Resolved, That the returns in the possession of the Board, and of the Clerk of the Common Council, from the Fourth and Fifth Districts of the Thirteenth Ward, the Trustee of Common Schools; of the Thirteenth District of the Twentieth Ward, on Assistant Alderman; of the Fourteenth District of the Twentieth Ward, on Trustee of Common Schools; and of the Twenty-sixth District of the Twentieth Ward, on Trustee of Common Schools, be accepted as correct, and canvassed accordingly.

On the conclusion of the reading of the report, Alderman WHITE said that he contended that there was enough evidence to warrant Mr. McVEANY in putting in his protest against the canvassing of the votes of the Eleventh District of the Ninth Ward, and that sufficient evidence of fraud had been shown to warrant the Board in disagreeing with the report of the Committee in regard to the votes of the said district. He therefore moved to allow McVEANY 180 votes and CULKIN 107.

The motion was lost, and the report was adopted by a vote of 9 to 7.

The Board then adjourned to noon Monday, when the result of the canvass will be declared.

THE COOPER UNION LECTURES.

Lecture by Dr. J. P. Boynton—The Introduction of Life upon our Planet.

Last evening the large hall of the Cooper Institute was crowded almost to excess, the doors having been closed and admission refused at 8 o'clock, on the occasion of Dr. BOYNTON'S third lecture before the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. The subject chosen was "The Introduction of Life upon our Planet." The learned gentleman opened his discourse with a summary review of the early geological history of the earth, in which he demonstrated that the formation of minerals and the saline beds, such as are found in Onondaga County, N. Y., are the result of volcanic action. He showed that the thinness of the earth's crust in that period admitted of frequent volcanic eruptions. The doctor then went on to show the various stages of progression which our planet underwent, to prepare it for the lowest form of life—vegetable. He said that the Creator never repeated Himself; what He created in the beginning exists to-day. There is nothing in geology, nor in nature, that intimates in the remotest degree, that one species has sprung from another. Then turning to the Sacred Record he said that Moses repeated the great truth which had been uttered ages before, upon the geologic rocks of the earth, namely, that trees and plants and animals should reproduce their own kind, their seed being in themselves. He (Dr. BOYNTON) based his faith upon that assertion, corroborated by scientific research; and he had no desire nor disposition to trace his genealogy to an alligator or an ass. [Laughter.] The lecturer then referred briefly to our own country, which, he said, is a broad one, and we have the promise of a good President for four years. [Cheers and suppressed hisses.] He apologized for the remark, as it had no political reference; and he did not even vote for GRANT, because he was not here at the time. [Laughter.] Why, he asked, does the earth revolve on its axis to-day? Because it has done so from the beginning. Why does the tree of the pear tree produce the same fruit from year to year? For the same reason—it never produced anything else. The same is true of animal life. The alligator and the monkey are the same to-day that they were four thousand years ago, and as they were when life was first introduced to our planet. The learned gentleman then explained the Hebrew notion used by Moses in describing the creation, and said that the same words were used to express the idea of a hen brooding over her eggs to warm them into life. So that when "the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters," it was simply the life-giving power, warming the elements that already existed, into vitality. He then proceeded to illustrate his subject by diagrams upon a large canvas. The first diagram represented the different strata of rocks of which the crust of the earth is composed. The next was a sectional view of the same, illustrating the introduction of the various forms of life upon our planet. He said there was no evidence in geology that the horse or the cow or other domestic animals existed before man; but they seemed to have commenced life with him. He then went on to describe the radiate and the intervening forms up to man, which he showed had but a brief existence before him. A diagram of a portion of the bottom of the sea was next presented, and was followed by another exhibiting the different forms of radii which are found in the first 15,000 feet of the earth's crust. A beautiful diagram of the geologic age, and of the present age, was then exhibited. Diagrams of ganoids, cranoids, mollusks and other crustacea were next exhibited, when the lecturer remarked that when the latter came into existence the trilobites went out. The *Terebitus* and *cocochus* of HUGH MILLER and the LYELLS were next presented, and were contrasted with animals living on the earth and sea at present, and a combination of angles and circles was pointed out in detail, the doctor stating that it seemed as if the Almighty was trying in the varied forms of life to ascertain how many functions could be performed by one animal, combining as important quantities of previous existences, and that when He had ascertained this fact He created man, the acme and the completion of the many and mighty works of God. [Applause.] FISHES, magnified to several hundred times their size, were represented on the canvas as if swimming, which created considerable merriment. The lecture closed with two magnificent views of the Falls of Niagara and Mount Vesuvius.

Church Matters in Brooklyn.

The leading topic of discussion in church-going circles in Brooklyn at present is the new Diocese of Long Island. The consecration of Bishop LITTLEJOHN will not take place until the end of January or beginning of February next. The ceremony will take place in the Church of the Holy Trinity. Harmonious as the primary Convention appeared to be in the election of Bishop, there appears to be some slumbering dissatisfaction. A correspondent of the *Protestant Churchman* calls upon Low-Church parishes in the diocese not to contribute to the support of the Episcopate, or to diocesan operations, in view of the fact that Rev. Drs. CANFIELD and SCHENCK were excluded from all of the committees, and that Rev. Mr. GUION was not permitted to vote for Bishop. As most of the parishes named have already contributed or engaged to do so, this advice looks very like a desire for repudiation.

The other matter of more than ordinary interest connected with Church movements is the grand operations of Plymouth Church, (Rev. Mr. BEECHER'S.) The Bethel Mission of that church is already a full-grown institution, doing a vast amount of good. The course of lectures by Dr. WILLARD PARKER, at the Bethel, inaugurated last Sunday evening, is a new thing for the time and place and auspices, but it is perfectly orthodox, for the lecturer took the ground, in his first effort, that he must assume man to be a morally and religiously responsible being, and on that basis he proceeded to speak of the importance of health. The Wednesday evening entertainments are also instrumental in gathering in hundreds of people who would not be found in any place of proper entertainment but for this opportunity. WATERHOUSE HAWKINS gave the first Wednesday evening lecture; next comes a first-class concert, next a lecture, and so on—lecture and concert alternately. These entertainments are furnished for fifteen cents to all comers. Rev. Dr. NEWMAN HALL would be astonished to see how Plymouth Church has outdone Surrey Chapel in bringing outsiders into the church vestibule, at least, to "taste and see that God is good." Much is due to Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER for this mission, and a great deal is due to Mr. BELL, the indefatigable Superintendent. Indeed there is a host of gentlemen who work at the mission, and who are entitled to much credit. The reading-room and library, and the chess and other amusements are accessible to visitors every night. There are scores of persons who indicate great appreciation of the opportunities thus furnished them of avoiding bad company and questionable amusements.

A Congregational Church Council met at the Elm-place Church on Wednesday and released Rev. W. A. BARTLETT from the bond which united him to that church and society for the last ten years, so as to enable him to proceed to his new charge in Plymouth Church, Chicago. Mr. BARTLETT will preach his farewell sermon this evening.

Unity Church Chapel, Unitarian, located in Classon-avenue, near Lefferts-street, was dedicated on Wednesday evening. Rev. H. W. BELLOWS, D. D.; Rev. SAMUEL OSGOOD, D. D.; Rev. C. B. WEBSTER, of Newburg; Rev. RUSHTON D. BURR, of Yonkers; Rev. F. A. FARLEY, D. D., and Rev. A. P. PUTNAM took part in the exercises, Mr. PUTNAM preaching the sermon. The chapel, which is of brick, with stone front, cost $11,000.

Ground for the new Puritan Congregational Church, on Tompkins-avenue, has been broken, and the work is in progress.

Rev. Dr. PORTER'S new church, the Bedford-avenue Reformed, is approaching completion. It is entirely covered in, and the workmen are operating upon the interior.

Rev. Dr. DUNYEA'S church, Classon-avenue Presbyterian, the corner-stone of which was laid last week, is progressing as rapidly as the weather will permit. Dr. DUNYEA is soon to furnish a series of articles on "Church Music," which are to appear in the New-York *Observer*.

Rev. THEO. L. CUYLER, D. D., is now engaged in the delivery of a series of discourses on the "Pilgrim's Progress" to the people of his charge, the Lafayette-avenue Presbyterian Church.

It is announced that it is the intention of Rev. C. S. ROBINSON, D. D., late of the Presbyterian Church, now laboring as pastor of the American Chapel in Paris, to return to Brooklyn and establish another church, still further east than Dr. DUNYEA'S.

The work on St. Ann's Protestant Episcopal Church, Rev. Dr. SCHENCK'S, corner of Livingston and Clinton streets, is progressing. It is a noble-looking edifice, and when finished will be one of the most ornate and chaste structures in Brooklyn.

The work of constructing the new Roman Catholic Cathedral, on Lafayette-avenue, between Vanderbilt and Clermont avenues, is proceeding very slowly.

Pastors are needed for the Elm-place Congregational Church, the State-street Congregational Church, Lee-avenue Reformed Church, and the Presbyterian Church in Clinton-street, near Fulton, (late Rev. Dr. ROCKWELL'S.)

The congregation of the Pacific-street M. E. Church have behaved toward their pastor, Rev. Dr. SUTTON, in a very unchristianlike manner. His health being impaired, and his physician having advised him to try a milder climate, he asked to be released from pulpit duty; but his resignation was laid on the table; the balance of his year's salary (four months) and the sum of $1,000 were voted to him, and leave of absence granted, the congregation to provide for the supply of his pulpit until his return.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in process of erection at the corner of Clinton and Carroll streets, is well advanced. The style is Gothic, and the architect is RICHARD M. UPJOHN. The walls are of rough-hewn blue granite, handsomely relieved with brown and sandstone, and the various columns are of solid brown stone, with massive Ohio sandstone pedestals and cornices. The edifice has a front of 70 feet on Clinton-street, and a depth of 136 feet, one side being on Carroll-street. It is 67 feet high, and will be surmounted by a graceful spire 167 feet in height. It will seat a congregation of from 2,500 to 3,000 people, and will cost upward of $150,000.

Lecture on Oxygen.

Last evening Prof. R. OGDEN DOREMUS, M. D., delivered a lecture on "Oxygen," in the lower Apollo Hall, corner of Broadway and Twenty-eighth-street, before a numerous and intellectual audience. The revelation of oxygen to the scientific world, the learned lecturer characterized as the most important of all the revelations of chemistry, and the recent discovery of a cheap method of producing the gas as the greatest discovery of the nineteenth century. In noticing the latter point, he said that whereas the process of fabricating oxygen had formerly cost about $250 per thousand cubic feet, it now cost but about $1 20, as made by an eminent French chemist. Its former expensiveness forbade its general utilization, but since the discovery of its cheaper method of production it was likely to be applied to many new offices for the benefit of mankind. Among other projects of the kind, the Professor mentioned the lighting of all the large cities in the world by means of oxygen gas. Paris, he said, was already partially lighted in this way, and a number of wealthy gentlemen, having confidence in the chemistry of the matter, had formed a company for the lighting of this City. A large retort is in process of construction in Forty-first-street, where the gas will soon be cheaply manufactured, on the new French principle, and then our up-town citizens, he said, would have an opportunity of judging of the merits of this superior light. Boorr's new theatre was about to be lighted by oxygen gas, and other public buildings would, doubtless, soon follow the example, and before long many private dwellings would enjoy the same benefit. This introduction of oxygen would not only give us a better light, but would enable us to breath a purer atmosphere. Another use for this gas, that would soon become general, was to take the place of hot blasts in melting-furnaces, thereby saving greatly in the item of coal, and working otherwise advantageously. Besides considering the relation of oxygen to light and heat, the Professor dwelt also upon its relation to electricity and animal life, and illustrated his subject by many beautiful and striking philosophical experiments. The entire lecture was listened to with eager interest, and was frequently applauded. The proceeds will be devoted to St. Ann's Church for Deaf Mutes, to sustain its mission work. A number of these unfortunate persons were present, and the lecture was interpreted for them by Rev. Dr. GALLAUDET.

Homicide in Newark.

Coroner LANG, of Newark, held an inquest yesterday on the body of JOSEPH HELRING, who was injured on Saturday evening last by a blow from THOMAS LAFON, Jr. The jury having been sworn, Mrs. AGATHA M. HELRING, mother of deceased, gave some formal evidence, after which JAMES E. BATHGATE, Jr., was examined, and testified that deceased had been in his employ as a market-boy, and on Saturday last he was brought to witness' stall by the prisoner and another man. He was laid on a lounge, and then complained of great pain and feel cold, and could not swallow. Young LAFON admitted that he struck HELRING with a shovel; said that he was sorry for it, and would not have done so, but that he believed HELRING was a larger boy when first seen fighting with his (prisoner's) brother. Witness then asked that LAFON take to his own house the deceased, but this he refused to do. HELRING was afterward taken home in a carriage by LAFON, who had previously called Dr. DENNIS to him.

Dr. DOUGHERTY swore that he attended HELRING on the day of the injury; found him suffering from a wound on the left side of the head; pulse and general appearance indicated serious injury; for a short time previous to his death deceased had been seized with convulsions.

The evidence of Drs. BRUMLEY and LEHLBACH was to the effect that death was caused by inflammation of the brain, the result of a fracture of the skull.

The jury retired at 9 o'clock and returned with the following verdict:

"The deceased came to his death by blows being struck upon his head with a shovel in the hands of THOMAS LAFON, and that the said THOMAS LAFON is guilty of murder in the second degree."

The deceased was about 18 years of age; the prisoner, who struck the fatal blow, was about two years his senior. The latter is now in custody at the Police Station. A great deal of sympathy is manifested for the unfortunate young man, as he has borne a good character, and as he belongs to a family of high respectability. He seems to be deeply affected by the result of his rash conduct, and protests earnestly that he supposed, when he attacked the deceased, that the latter was larger and more powerful than he really was.

Hon. COURTLAND PARKER has been employed as counsel for young LAFON, and attended the examination of witnesses at the inquest.

Skating.

The Empire City Skating Rink, situated on Third-avenue, between Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth streets, a description of which has heretofore been published in the TIMES, was formally thrown open to the public yesterday afternoon. Only one-half the entire ice-bed was permitted to be used, however. In the evening the building was beautifully illuminated, though all the gas jets were not lighted. During the afternoon and evening upward of 3,000 persons visited the rink, among whom were a majority of the "star skaters." Dodworth's Band (or rather a portion of it) made musical the hours. A grand opening will be had of this edifice shortly.

The Central Park Commissioners are to allow the public the use of the lakes to-morrow, should the weather permit—it is necessary to qualify all statements made respecting unbuttered ice-beds with this sentence. The accommodations at the Park this year will be greater than heretofore.

MITCHELL'S Ponds, at Fifth-avenue and Fifty-ninth-street, are both in good condition, the west-side one having been in use some days back. This pond was also illuminated last night. On the opposite side of the way is the pond to be used by the New-York Skating Club.

The Brooklyn Park lake was opened yesterday and well patronized. Both on the Capitoline and Union Ponds, good skating has been enjoyed the past four days. Bands of music also perform at these places, for the delectation of the people.

In Jersey City good skating has been enjoyed during the latter half of the past week. The new rink there will doubtless be opened to-morrow.

The Jerome Park has been flooded, and great preparations made for the skaters who will visit there. The Saturday excursions, a great feature of last year's enjoyments, will be resumed the present season.

On Friday evening a skating match for a purse of $2,000 and the championship of America, was made at JENNINGS' "Study" in Hudson-street, between Mr. FRANK SWIFT, the present champion, and JAMES C. MEAD, both of whom are members of the New-York Skating Club. Last Winter a gold medal was won by Mr. SWIFT, at a tournament in Pittsburg, Penn., worth $400. The possessor of this medal is awarded the title of champion, which title and medal, however, must be skated for each season. The present match has been set down for January.

The New Letter Boxes.

A demand having been made by the public that lamp-post boxes should possess holes large enough for the admission of papers, as well as letters, Postmaster KELLY has had presented four samples of new inventions, only one of which he finds feasible. This was devised by a Post Office employe, and can be used without the necessity of paying an exorbitant royalty to an inventor. Every new box now pays the inventor of the present description a tax, and, if damage should occur by the backing against it of a wagon, or otherwise, he alone has the right to repair it, and at a charge of at least three times what the work would cost if done by the Government.

The Postmaster is not very favorable to receiving newspapers in lamp-post boxes. He asserts in an entertaining and emphatic way, that a box of the size of a charcoal wagon would be needed. Everybody in the neighborhood, he thinks, will mail papers to friends, after reading them, and these, being more bulky when folded than unread papers, would shortly crowd a box to repletion. He considers that papers should be deposited either in the General Post Office or the branch offices, as at presents. In London, only a small portion of the numerous letter-boxes admit them. A few of the newly invented lamp-post boxes are receiving a trial round the City, but it has been found that letters can be stolen from them. They are unlockable. A box of this kind in Printing-house-square, was one day filled with newspapers in four minutes and a-half after being emptied, and it was impossible to crowd a letter into it.

Mr. KELLY will give all inventions a fair trial, and, therefore, no immediate change from the present arrangement will take place.

Fire in Pearl-street.

A fire broke out at 11:30 o'clock last night at No. 244 Pearl-street, which consumed the contents of the third and fourth floors and the roof of the building. The firemen, who were on the spot with great promptitude, succeeded in confining the fire to the upper part of the building named, and in ultimately extinguishing it. The lower floors and contents were much damaged by water, as also were the adjoining buildings, Nos. 242 and 246. The first, third and fourth floors of No. 244 were occupied by WM. N. WALTON, dealer in glassware, whose loss is probably about $6,000. The second floor was occupied by GEORGE B. RIPLEY, paper dealer; loss about $3,000; fully insured. No. 242 is occupied by A. G. HAZZELL; loss by water, not estimated. No. 246 is occupied by Mr. DOSS, dealer in copper utensils, &c., and by the New-York Lamp COMPANY; loss also entirely by water.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

ANOTHER UP-TOWN COURSE OF LECTURES.—A course of popular lectures has been arranged for, to be delivered in the Wigwam, West Forty-sixth-street. The first of the course will be given on Tuesday evening, by Rev. Dr. DAY K. LEE, on astronomy. The title of the lecture will be "Families of Worlds." Among the other lecturers in the course will be Rev. G. C. ESRAY, Prof. P. W. BEDFORD and HORACE GREELEY.

HAMILTON COLLEGE ALUMNI.—The resident Alumni of Hamilton College are requested to meet at No. 37 Lafayette-place at 8 P. M. of Thursday, Dec. 17, for the purpose of completing their New-York City organization and arranging for the next reunion. The call for the meeting is signed by THEODORE W. DWIGHT, THOMAS S. HASTINGS, EDWIN C. LEITCHFIELD, CHARLES P. KIRKLAND and F. F. ELLINWOOD.

MINOR ITEMS.—The floating grist-mill owned by MOSES GOODRIND, of No. 140 Water-street, sprung a leak yesterday, as it lay at the foot of East Twenty-fourth-street, and sank in a few moments. The loss is not known.....EDWARD FORBES, aged 34, of No. 285 West Thirtieth-street, fell yesterday in the street and broke his leg.....WILLIAM THOMPSON was, at an early hour yesterday, knocked down by THEODORE WILLEY, who used a slung-shot. The assault was committed on the corner of Greene and Bleecker streets. THOMPSON was taken home to No. 490 Sixth-avenue, but his assailant escaped arrest.

FIRES LAST NIGHT.—A fire occurred last evening at No. 37 Union-square, when the flames were extinguished by Officers HOGAN and CROWLEY, with a damage of $20.....At 5 P. M. another fire broke out at No. 26 Beach-street, in the second floor, occupied by ELLEN R. WARD, who sustained a loss of $60.....At 8:30 P. M. a third fire occurred in the fancy store No. 406 Fifth-street, caused by a gas jet coming in contact with goods in the window. Damage $50; insured in the Commonwealth for $2,000.

A SWINDLER.—An unknown man called at the floral store of JAS. BINOT & SON, in Eleventh-street, near Third-avenue, yesterday afternoon, and ordered a bouquet valued at $8. He tendered a $50 bill in payment and received $42 in change. The bouquet was taken to the house designated when it was found to be a church in Twenty-third-street. Of course the $50 bill was found to be a counterfeit one.

SUICIDE.—JACOB HUBER, a German, aged 40, and boarding at No. 5 Morris-street, committed suicide yesterday afternoon in his room by shooting himself through the heart. The motive for the rash act is not known.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.—The Collector of City and County Taxes reports the receipts of $396,829 25 during the week.

BROOKLYN NEWS.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FOOD.—The instructive and entertaining lectures by Miss JULIA COLEMAN on "The Philosophy of Food," at the DIXON Institute, corner of De Kalb-avenue and Adelphi-street, Brooklyn, supply the understanding with food for reflection, and a comprehension of the proper method of preparing and partaking of it. The preliminary lecture on this subject was delivered on the 10th of November to a crowded and appreciative audience in the reception rooms of the Institute. A class is now forming for a course of six lectures, the first (on Bread-making